SHONENJUMP MANGA

vol. 7

# NISEKOI

## False Love

Story and Art by
NAOSHI KOMI

Personally, I really like Ruri.
In the beginning, I never would've anticipated featuring her
as the centerpiece of the cover illustration. For the next volume,
Ruri will probably be in the drawing on this page.

Naoshi Komi



NAOSHI KOMI was born in Kochi Prefecture, Japan, on March 28, 1986. His first serialized work in *Weekly Shonen Jump* was the series *Double Arts*. His current series, *Nisekoi*, is serialized in *Weekly Shonen Jump*.

# NISEKOI:
## False Love
### VOLUME 7
**SHONEN JUMP Manga Edition**

Story and Art by
NAOSHI KOMI

Translation ✓ Camellia Nieh
Touch-Up Art & Lettering ✓ Stephen Dutro
Design ✓ Fawn Lau
Editor ✓ John Bae

NISEKOI © 2011 by Naoshi Komi
All rights reserved.
First published in Japan in 2011
by SHUEISHA Inc., Tokyo.
English translation rights arranged
by SHUEISHA Inc.

The stories, characters and incidents mentioned
in this publication are entirely fictional.

No portion of this book may be reproduced or
transmitted in any form or by any means without
written permission from the copyright holders.

Published by VIZ Media, LLC
P.O. Box 77010
San Francisco, CA 94107

RATED T FOR TEEN

**PARENTAL ADVISORY**
NISEKOI: FALSE LOVE is rated T for Teen and is recommended for ages 13 and up. This volume contains realistic and fantasy violence.

ratings.viz.com

SHONEN JUMP
www.shonenjump.com

VIZ MEDIA
www.viz.com

# NISEKOI

## False Love

vol. 7: The Reason

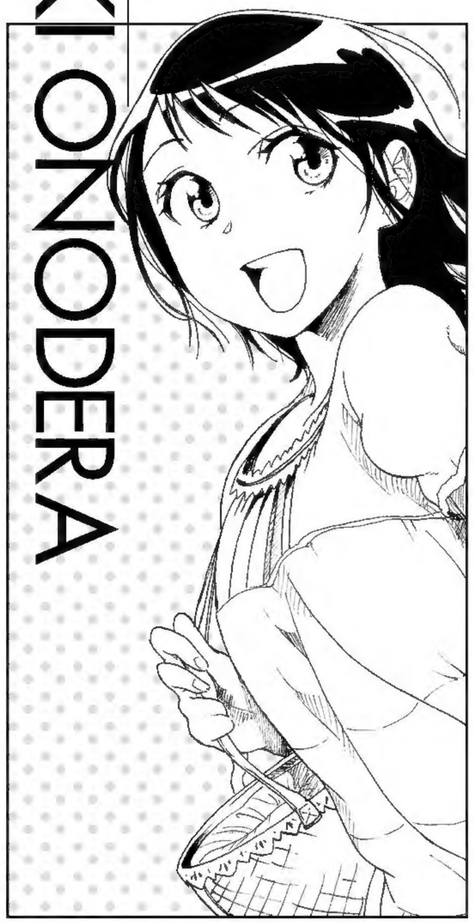
Story and Art by
NAOSHI KOMI

# THE STORY THUS FAR



## MARIKA TACHIBANA

Daughter of the chief of police, Marika is Raku's fiancée, according to an agreement made by their fathers—an agreement Marika takes very seriously! Also has a key and remembers making a promise with Raku ten years ago.



## KOSAKI ONODERA

A girl Raku has a crush on. Beautiful and sweet, Kosaki has no shortage of admirers. She's a terrible cook but makes food that *looks* amazing.



## CHITOGE KIRISAKI

A half-Japanese bombshell with stellar athletic abilities. Short-tempered and violent. Comes from a family of gangsters.



## RAKU ICHIJO

A normal teen whose family happens to be yakuza. Cherishes a pendant given to him by a girl he met ten years ago. Has a crush on Kosaki.

### SEISHIRO TSUGUMI

Adopted by Claude as a young child and raised as a top-notch assassin, Seishiro is 100% devoted to Chitoge. Often mistaken for a boy, Tsugumi's really a girl.



### SHU MAIKO

Raku's best friend. Outgoing and girl-crazy. Always tuned in to the latest gossip at school.



### RURI MIYAMOTO

Kosaki's best gal pal. Comes off as aloof, but is actually a devoted and highly intuitive friend.



Raku Ichijo is an ordinary teen...who just happens to come from a family of yakuza! His most treasured item is a pendant he was given ten years ago by a girl whom he promised to meet again one day and marry.

Thanks to family circumstances, Raku is forced into a false relationship with Chitoge, the daughter of a rival gangster, to keep their families from shedding blood. Despite their constant spats, Raku and Chitoge somehow manage to fool everyone. One day, Chitoge discovers an old key, jogging memories of her own first love ten years earlier. Meanwhile, Raku's crush, Kosaki, confesses that she also has a key and made a promise with a boy ten years ago. To complicate matters, Marika Tachibana, a girl who claims to be Raku's fiancée, has a key as well and remembers a promise ten years ago. Plus, Chitoge's acting weird ever since their trip to the beach. Could it be that she has feelings for Raku?!




# NISEKOI
## False Love

vol. 7: The Reason

TABLE OF CONTENTS


chapter 54: Destiny 7
chapter 55: Contest 27
chapter 56: Teach Me! 47
chapter 57: Notice Me! 67
chapter 58: Lost 87
chapter 59: Long Time No See 107
chapter 60: Needed 127
chapter 61: Mother 147
chapter 62: The Reason 167

ヒュオオ　オオ　VWHOO　オオ

オオ　オオ　FWSHH　オオ　オオ

FLAP バタ

FLAP バタ

FLAP バタ

FLAP バタ

JAPAN.

WHAT A YAWNFEST. THIS PLACE IS TOO QUIET.

# Chapter 54: Destiny

YOU! AND I...

...HAVE UNFINISHED BUSINESS!

I'VE COME TO FIND YOU...

...BLACK TIGER!

KCHIK

HEY, TSUGUMI!

キーン DIING
コーン DOOONG

NOT TODAY.

THERE'S A SALE I WANT TO CATCH AT THE SUPER-MARKET.

AND YOU'RE NOT GOING TO WAIT FOR HER, YOU JERK?

SHE FORGOT HER HOMEWORK AND HAS TO STAY LATE TO REDO IT.

WHAT?

YOU WANT SOME-THING?

OH!

BY THE WAY...

I GUESS I'LL LET CLAUDE TAKE IT FROM HERE...

IT'S HONEY.

SHE SAYS TO GO ON HOME WITHOUT HER.

WHAT?

SO THANK YOU.

SOME OF THE STUFF YOU HELPED ME WITH THE OTHER DAY CAME UP.

ON OUR MINI-QUIZ TODAY...

...

YOU COULD JUST SAY, "YOU'RE WELCOME"...

I MEAN, ANY IDIOT KNOWS THAT STUFF!

LIKE I EVEN CARE IF YOU THANK ME FOR SOMETHING THAT MINOR!

COME ON!

...

KCHAK

RAKU ICHIJO!!

!!

WHAT?

I GUESS I COULD HELP YOU AGAIN IF YOU NEED IT THAT BADLY.

WELL, NEXT TIME...

HUH?

BLAM
BLAM
HRLF!?
SHOOP
KA-BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
?!
?!
WHA ...?!
BLAM
DA DUM
FWAH
FSHOO
KLONG
KLONG

!

YOU!

シャ

SHAH

ト…

カリキィィィン!!

KA-VOOSH

BLAM

BLAM

!!

LONG TIME NO SEE...

...BLACK TIGER!

IT'S BEEN A YEAR.

GRRR!

ギギ…!

BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
KA
SHING!!
YOU AND I...
...HAVE A FEW THINGS TO DISCUSS!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?
RRR...
BLAM BLAM
HELP!
INTO THE BUILDING, EVERY-ONE!
AGH!
KA-POW
AIEE!
POW
POW
EEP!
A SCHOOL SHOOTING ?!
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
AHH!
YIKES!
BLAM
BLAM
STOP! I SAID STOOOP !!
KA-POW
BLAM
BLAM BLAM BLAM
HEY!! KNOCK IT OFF! THIS IS A SCHOOL!!
IF YOU WANNA FIGHT, GO SOME-WHERE ELSE!

FWAM

OOPS.



YOU COULD'VE GOTTEN YOURSELF KILLED!

YOU GOT OFF EASY!

WHAT ELSE COULD I DO?

I HAD TO!

ARE YOU CRAZY?!

STEPPING UNARMED INTO THE MIDDLE OF A GUNFIGHT?!

QUIT STARING!!

I'm not! I'm not!

NORMALLY I STAY WITH THE YOUNG MISTRESS, BUT FOR SOME JOBS I NEED MY OWN SPACE.

IT'S AN APARTMENT I RENT.

WHERE ARE WE?

Really

I'M FINE.

YOU DON'T NEED TO BANDAGE IT.

BE QUIET!

I DON'T WANT TO OWE YOU ONE, OKAY?

AHEM!

KOFF!

I JUST TRIED TO KILL YOU.

WHY AM I NOW HAVING TEA IN YOUR HOME?

WELL, BLACK TIGER?

SO?

WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?

HA!

YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING, DO YOU?

BLACK TIGER?

?

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WANTED TO TALK.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT!!

HER ANIMAL-LIKE SPEED AND FEROCITY EARNED HER THE NAME...

...BLACK TIGER.

SHE BURST ONTO THE SCENE LIKE A COMET A FEW YEARS BACK...

I WAS THE CHAMPION OF OUR GAME IN THOSE DAYS, BUT SHE BEAT MY SCORE IN NOTHING FLAT.

IN THE AMERICAN UNDER-WORLD...

...THIS WOMAN'S STREET NAME IS BLACK TIGER.

THE BEEHIVE'S "WHITE FANG" IS KNOWN FAR AND WIDE...

THAT'S RIGHT.

A FAIRLY NOTORIOUS ONE, ACTUALLY.

ARE YOU AN ASSASSIN TOO?

Stay awhile ...

CARE FOR SOME DINNER?

IT REALLY HAS BEEN A WHILE.

QUIT BEING SO FRIENDLY!

We ain't family, you know!

DON'T CALL ME PAULA!

I hate that name! It's so uncool!

WE USED TO WORK TOGETHER.

THIS IS PAULA MCCOY.

BUT HONESTLY, I'M DIS-APPOINTED!

EVER SINCE YOU PASSED ME IN THE RANK-INGS...

I'VE HAD MY EYE ON YOU.

I CAME HERE TO SETTLE A SCORE WITH YOU!!

I DIDN'T COME HERE TO PAL AROUND.

I'VE BEEN ASSIGNED TO GUARD THE YOUNG MISTRESS...

WELL...

IS THAT REALLY ALL THERE IS TO IT?

No wonder I felt like I was being watched.

...LEADING A CAREFREE LIFE OF LEISURE.

YOU'VE GROWN LAZY AND COM-PLACENT...

I'VE BEEN WATCHING YOU THESE PAST FEW DAYS.

YOU MIGHT AS WELL BE A NORMAL TEENAGED GIRL!!

...YOU'VE FALLEN IN LOVE AND GONE TOTALLY SOFT?

OR MAYBE ...

IS THIS THE GUY?

It happens.

WHAT'S BECOME OF YOU?

ARE YOU AFRAID OF COMBAT NOW?!

YOU'RE LIKE A DEFANGED TIGER!

...OF YOUR FORMER EDGE!!

YOU'VE LOST ANY TRACE...

ANYWAY, I CAN'T STAND TO SEE YOU LIKE THIS!

THERE'S NO POINT IF YOU'RE NOT AT LEAST AS STRONG AS BEFORE!!

IS THAT SO?

UM... SORRY.

RRRMMBBB

ゴゴゴゴゴゴ

ABSOLUTELY NOT!

?!

DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE FOR-GOTTEN?

RRMB

ゴゴゴ

SHING

キン!

THERE'S PLENTY OF HIGHER-UPS TO COMPETE WITH.

WHY'RE YOU SO OBSESSED, ANYWAY?

...THE FIRST TIME WE WERE ASSIGNED TO WORK TOGETHER.

I'LL NEVER FORGET...

I'M PAULA.

SHP-

NICE TO MEET YOU.

WOW, HE'S CUTE!

YOU'RE BLACK TIGER?

KRIK!!

YOU'RE FLAT AS A PANCAKE!

WHAT ARE YOU, A GUY?

Already growing a chest

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO LOOKS LIKE A GUY!!

YOU'RE ONE TO TALK!!

WHO SAYS THAT WHEN THEY FIRST MEET SOMEONE ?!

Way to hit a nerve!

BOO HOO

ぶあっ!!

I SWORE I'D BEAT YOU ONE DAY!

I'VE RESENTED YOU EVER SINCE!

SHOOF フッ…

...AND YOU ALWAYS HOGGED ALL THE JUICY WORK!

Kid-napping

WE WORKED TOGETHER LOTS OF TIMES AFTER THAT...

BOO HOO!!

IT'S NOTHING TO CRY ABOUT ...

GEEZ.

WAAAH!!

ズーン

WORMP

BOING

ポヨヨン…!

THIS IS IT, BLACK TIGER!!

DRAW!!

KSHING

IT'S TIME...

...TO SHOW YOU WHAT I CAN DO!

ズ...

SOB

OH, BOY.

DON'T GO THINKING YOU'VE GOT ME BEAT!!

WOW! BEEF STEW! THIS LOOKS DELICIOUS!

FIRST THINGS FIRST.

HOLD ON.

YOU HAVEN'T EATEN YET, HAVE YOU?

KTUNK

...

Where is the Black Tiger I know?!

WHAT IS THIS, *LEAVE IT TO BEAVER?*

BEEF STEW? GIMME A BREAK!

ぐす...

WORMP

NOW YOU KNOW.

I DIDN'T KNOW YOU COULD COOK.

Wow!

WAAH わぁん!!

HEY! I'M SERIOUS ABOUT THIS!!

HEE
HEE
HEE
EE
HEE
YOU USED TO DRINK BLOOD AND CACKLE LIKE A WITCH!
I DID NOT!!
BOO HOO
...CHANGED THAT MUCH?
HEY... HAS TSUGUMI REALLY...
EVERYONE WAS AFRAID OF THE BEEHIVE'S NEW MAD DOG!
SHE HAD THE BIG GUNS OF THE UNDER-WORLD QUAKING IN THEIR BOOTS!
THREE YEARS AGO, SHE WIPED OUT A WHOLE GANG SINGLE-HANDEDLY!
SHE'S TOTALLY DIFFER-ENT!
WHENEVER WE WORKED TOGETHER...
...SHE WAS OBVIOUSLY IN A LEAGUE OF HER OWN.
SHE WAS A LEGEND IN HER OWN TIME!
HUH?!
HOW COME YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT?!
SOME YOUNG LOWLIFES WERE HASSLING CHITOGE, RIGHT?
I HEARD.

MMM... TASTY.

IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THIS INSIPID NOBODY IS THE SAME PERSON.

HMM...

SNIFF グス…

KTUNK コト…

…

…REALLY MEANT SOMETHING.

THE NAME BLACK TIGER...

THIS IS REALLY DELICIOUS!!

WOW !!

WHAT-EVER. THERE'S PLENTY.

DON'T EAT IT IF YOU DON'T WANT IT.

You don't mind?

FOR ME?

…

R-REALLY?

HONEY CAN'T COOK AT ALL, SO I FIGURED YOU COULDN'T EITHER.

I NEED TO GET THIS RECIPE!

GEE, I'M REALLY IMPRESSED! THE SEASONINGS ARE PERFECT!

!!

WHA ...?!

カアアア BLUSH

YEAH!

YOU'LL MAKE AN AWESOME WIFE SOMEDAY!!

AHA!

HMM.

はぁん?

WHAT?!

I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT ME!!

WHAM

ガシャアン!!

FWAK

バタン

THUMP

バタン!!

WHO'D WANT TO MARRY YOU, ANYWAY?!

HOW-EVER!

I CHAL-LENGE YOU TO A CONTEST.

IF YOU WIN, I'LL BACK OFF AND STOP BOTHERING YOU.

I HAVE AN IDEA.

SAY, BLACK TIGER?

WAIT!

YOU'RE ON!

BUT DON'T EXPECT ME TO GO EASY ON YOU!

...UNTIL YOU REGAIN YOUR FORMER VENOM!

IF I WIN...

...YOU'LL COME BACK TO THE STATES...

YOU'VE NEVER BESTED ME AT ANYTHING SO FAR!

ARM WRESTLING?

CLOSE COMBAT?

A SHOOTING MATCH?

WHAT SORT OF CONTEST?

TAK

スタ

スタ...

TAK

AND THE WINNER WILL BE...

THE ENTIRE TOWN IS OUR PLAYING FIELD.

THE CONTEST WILL LAST ONE HOUR.

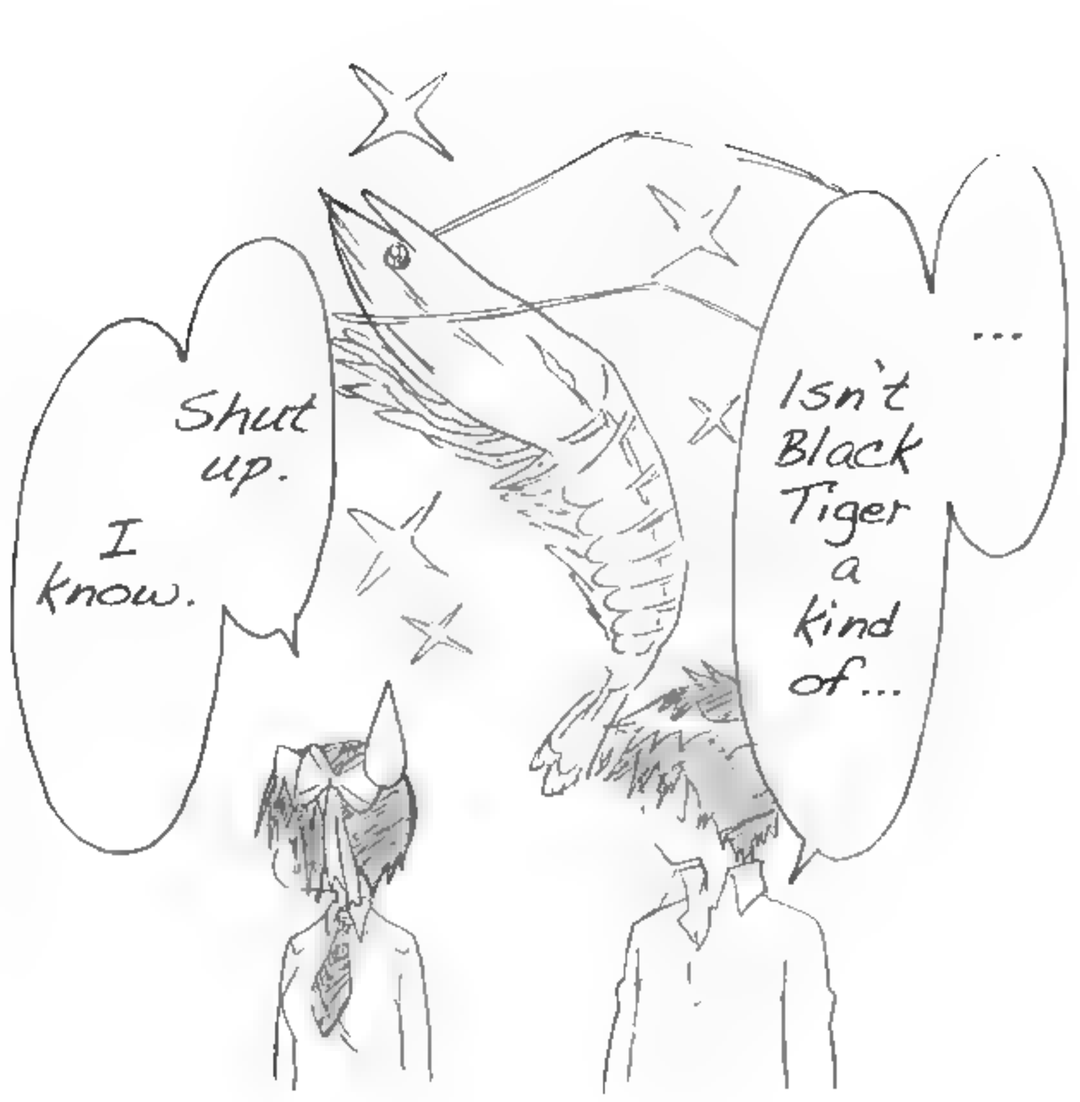
...TO STEAL A KISS FROM THESE LIPS! ♡

...THE FIRST GIRL...

WHAAAAT?!

HUH?

HUH?


Shut up.
I know.
Isn't Black Tiger a kind of...
...

WHAT KIND OF CONTEST IS THAT?!

OHO!

THE ART OF SEDUCTION IS AN IMPORTANT WEAPON IN ANY ASSASSIN'S ARSENAL!

WHAT DO MY LIPS...

...HAVE TO DO WITH ANYTHING?!

# Chapter 55: Contest

LISTEN TO ME!

YOU MAY NOT BELIEVE THIS, BUT THAT GUY HAPPENS TO BE...

WELL, WELL!

SO, THE BLACK TIGER IS BACKING DOWN FROM A CONTEST SHE ACCEPTED?

THAT'S OUT OF THE QUESTION!

N-NO WAY!

SO FORGET IT!!

ASK HONEY HERSELF IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE US!

YES! I AM! IT'S TRUE!

...

HE'S MISTRESS CHITOGE'S BOY-FRIEND?!

TWITCH ピク…

THE MISTRESS'S BOYFRIEND!

WHEN YOU AGREED, YOU MADE A COMMITMENT!

WHST!!

"NEVER BACK DOWN FROM A CHALLENGE YOU'VE ACCEPTED!"

THERE'S NO GOING BACK NOW!

HMM. I SEE...

PERHAPS SO.

...THE BEEHIVE'S IRON RULE?

BUT BLACK TIGER, DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE FORGOT-TEN...

THANKS A LOT!!

...BUT SHE CAN'T BE SERIOUS ABOUT THIS DUDE!

THE MIS-TRESS MAY BE DATING HIM...

What's she see in him, anyway?

BESIDES ...

WHOEVER WINS, WE'LL NEVER TELL.

DON'T WORRY.

TH-THERE'S TOTALLY NO WAY...?!

ME? FROM... HIM?!

ACK! STEAL A KISS?!

SHAKKA

BUT...

SHAKKA

BUT SHE'S CLEARLY NOT SO SMOOTH IN THE ROMANCE DEPARTMENT!

I MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO BEAT BLACK TIGER IN ANY OTHER CONTEST...

TEE-HEE!

I'VE DEFINITELY GOT AN EDGE HERE!

カアアアアアアア...

BLUSH

...

GLANCE

ドキッ

LUB DUB

BE-SIDES...

I DON'T WANT THAT!!

...IF I LOSE, I'LL HAVE TO LEAVE THE MISTRESS!

BLUSH

W-WHA...?! WAIT! FOR REAL?!

OH, YES!

ゲイッ

SKWEE

!

WHAT?!

NOW!!

LET THE CONTEST BEGIN!!

SWOOP

ナアアッ!!

KSHH
シュウ
ウゥ...

WHSH
ボッ

BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

AAAGH!!

YIKES!
WHAT AM I DOING?!

...CAME OVER ME?!

WHAT JUST...

THAT'S THE SPIRIT...

SHOOP
ヒッ!!

...BLACK TIGER!

GLRFF
あああ...

AND YET... I HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO DESIRE TO KISS THAT JERK!

WHEN I SAW PAULA ABOUT TO STEAL A KISS...

KA-BLOW

I'M...

POW POW POW

...DEAD!!

POW POW POW

KCHUNG

I'M DEAD!!

THEY'RE GONNA KILL ME!!

AIEE!!

KA-BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

AAAAAH!!

THIS ISN'T EVEN MY BATTLE!!

I DON'T HAVE NINE LIVES, FOR CRYING OUT LOUD!

I HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE!!

I DON'T WANT ANY PART OF THIS!!

TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP

AAAAUGH!!

ドドド

ドキン…
LUB DUB
…
ドキッ…!!
SHP!!
DON'T TALK!
BUT… I MEAN…
LUB DUB
ドキン…!
FOR REAL?
ドキン…!
ドガラッシャァァ
KRASH CLATTER WHUDD
AUGH!!
OOPS.
?
YOU DON'T HAFTA HIT ME!!
SMACK
バキ
I CAN'T DO THIS!!
I KNEW IT! YOU LOSE, BLACK TIGER!!
VOOSH
BWA HA HA!!
BLAM BLAM
HUH?!

グォォ…
SHWOO
A SMOKE-SCREEN?!
ォォォォォ
WHA…?!
ドゴゴゴゴ!!
FSHOO
キンッ!
KTUNK
HARD GRAD
OH NO!!
GASP
!!
オォ…
FWOO
ォォ
ォォ…
WITH THIS MUCH DISTANCE BETWEEN US…
…EVEN BLACK TIGER WON'T BE ABLE TO TRACK US!!
…
WELL, WELL!
C

I DON'T WANT MY FIRST KISS TO BE LIKE THIS!!

I'VE NEVER KISSED A GIRL BEFORE!!

IT'S NOT FAIR!!

バタ FLAIL

バタ FLAIL

WHAT?!

WELL, IT'S MY FIRST KISS TOO!

WHO'RE YOU CALLING KID?!

I'M CLEARLY OLDER THAN YOU!!

C'MON, KID. YOU MIGHT AS WELL JUST PUCKER UP.

DON'T WORRY. I'LL BE GENTLE. ♡

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

HUH?

A FIRST KISS SHOULD BE SPECIAL! NOT SOME STUPID CONTEST!!

AND THIS IS HOW YOU WANT IT TO BE?

IT'S YOUR FIRST KISS TOO?!

...

WELL, MAYBE IT DOESN'T MATTER TO YOU.

IT'S NOTHING TO GET SO UPTIGHT ABOUT. THAT'S SOOO JAPANESE!

WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL, ANYWAY?

EVERYONE KISSES. BESIDES, IT'S JUST TWO MEMBRANES COMING INTO CONTACT.

HAHH!!?....

...?

I FOR ONE...

...CARE!

BUT IT MATTERS TO PEOPLE WHO CARE!

WINNING THIS COMPETITION ISN'T WHAT YOU REALLY CARE ABOUT, IS IT?

BESIDES...

THAT'S...

...NOT TRUE...

...

WHAT?

...IS TO WIN TSUGUMI'S RESPECT, RIGHT?

WHAT YOU REALLY WANT...

HAHH...

HAHH...

I'VE TOTALLY LOST THEM...

IT'S NO USE...

WHAT NOW? IF I LOSE, I'LL HAVE TO GO BACK TO THE U.S.

I'LL HAVE TO LEAVE THE YOUNG MISTRESS...

BUT... I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO!!

BY NOW, PAULA'S PROBABLY...

ハァ... HAHH...

ハァ... HAHH...

WHY DO I FEEL THIS WAY?

ズキン... ZING

ズキン... ZING

I DON'T UNDER-STAND IT...

WHY AM I SO TERRIFIED?

BUT THIS FEELS AWFUL!!

ZING ズキン...

ZING

ハァ... HAHH...

THE THOUGHT OF HER KISSING HIM...

...MAKES ME FEEL HORRIBLE!

JOLT

NO!!

NO.

NO.

NO.

WORMP つう...

WHAT...

...NOW ?!

KFOOM

オオオオオ

RRRMMBBB

HOW ON EARTH ...?!

...SHE FOUND US??

DON'T TELL ME...

ゴオオオオオ

RRRMMBBB

?!

WHAT'S THAT SOUND?!

WHA ...?

?!!

...!

WHAT THE...!?

...??

UH... TSUGUMI?

NICE TIMING!

TSU-GUMIII! HELP, TSUGUMI !!

オオオ

RRRM

MBBB

TMP

!

TMP

RRRR

SHING

RRRMMBBB

ゴオオオオオ

THAT MURDER-OUS LOOK... I KNOW IT SO WELL!

THAT'S THE BLACK TIGER I WANT TO SEE!

4+... ! KCHIK

NOW THAT'S MORE LIKE IT!

I SEE YOU'RE FINALLY PLAYING FOR KEEPS.

Or a demon?

...?!

IS THAT... TSU-GUMI?!

ヒュー

VOOSH

"/...!!

WHERE'D ...

...SHE GO?

!!

NOW WE CAN REALLY HAVE SOME FUN!

KCHING CHING

VWAM

KA KA KA

KRAKK !

ガラ ガラ ガラ ガラ

SHOO SHOO SHOO SHOO

...

KRAK

メキ

KRAK

メキ

WHA... ?!

WHAT THE HECK?!

...!! SHE SHATTERED A CONCRETE PILLAR WITH A MERE KICK?!

KA-KA-KA-KRASH

WHUD WHUD WHUD WHUD WHUD

EEP!!

PAULA!

JOLT

ドキ!!

I THOUGHT SHE'D LOST IT...

UNFATHOMABLE SPEED AND FORCE!!

...BUT SHE'S EVEN MORE POWERFUL THAN EVER BEFORE!!

YES?

RAKU ICHIJO!

ドキ..!!
LUB DUB

YES.

Y...

I'M SKAKKA SKAKKA

QUIVER

QUIVER

AM I CLEAR?

DON'T RESIST.

LUB DUB

ドキン..
LUB DUB

ドキン..
LUB DUB

ドキン..
LUB DUB

ドキン..!!

WAIT...

ARE YOU GOING TO...

...

DON'T TALK.

ガッ SHP...!

SMAK

チュッ

PAT

ポン…！

HUH?

BLUSH

カアアア…

THAT DOESN'T COUNT!!

GIVE ME A BREAK!

I'VE FULFILLED THAT CRITERIA.

YOU SAID TO STEAL A KISS FROM HIS LIPS.

OF COURSE IT DOES.

W-

WHAT ?!

I WIN, PAULA!

THERE! I STOLE A KISS!

TOTALLY

すっきり!!

SATISFIED

BUT PAULA ...

...

SHOOT ...

ガタガタ SHAKKA SHAKKA

ブルブル TREMBLE TREMBLE

NO PROBLEM AT ALL. I'M SORRY.

OR DO WE HAVE A PROBLEM?

GLARE

ギュッ GRIP

.. .. !

...THAT WAS REALLY IMPRESSIVE, KID.

WHEN YOU ATTACKED ME BACK THERE AND WHISKED HIM AWAY...

I'M PROUD OF YOU.

YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY.

BOO HOO HOO HOO !!

WAAAAAAAAH!!

WAAAAAAAAH おおおお

Yeesh. I'm exhaust-ed...

...WHAT NOW?

BUT BLACK TIGER...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

NO.

YOU GOT A PROB-LEM?

ARE YOU OKAY WITH THAT?

THAT BOY. HE'S DATING THE YOUNG MISTRESS, RIGHT?

WHY WOULDN'T I BE?

OF COURSE.

...TALK ABOUT A LATE BLOOMER!!

None of your busi-ness!!

What're you two talking about?

HONEST-LY...

GRIN


Sniffle...
When will I see her again?

CLASS GRADE POINT RANKINGS

CALM DOWN, WILL YA?

HOW'D I DO?

HOW'D I DO?

ガヤ CHATTER

CHATTER ガヤ


60 Kentaro Sasaki
61 Ryowa Sato
62 Tsukasa Shimizu
63 Raku Ichijo
64 Akira Ono
65 Tomonobu Jinnai


CHATTER おい

CHATTER おい


5 Chitoge Kirisaki 471
6 Seishiro Tsugumi 467
7 Tsutomu Megane 461


TA-DAA!!

OH! THERE I AM!

STILL CAN'T SEEM TO BREAK INTO THE TOP 50!

RATS. 63RD OUT OF 207...

Guess I didn't review enough...

# Chapter 56: Teach Me!

OH, HI, ONO-DERA. HOW'D YOU DO?

HOW'D YOU DO, ICHIJO?

DANG GENIUSES!

I'M NEXT TO THE MIS-TRESS!

WELL, I DIDN'T REALLY STUDY...

HMPH! ONLY FIFTH PLACE!

20 Daisuke Yamashita
21 Chigusa Asatsuki
22 Shu Maiko
23 Ruri Miyamoto
24 Shingo Sakai
25 Kota Nishino

DA-DA-DUM!!

YEAH.

SAME AS USUAL, I GUESS.

I WAS NUMBER 88.

ME TOO, PRETTY MUCH.

OW OW OW OW!

WAIT, WHAT'RE YOU DOING?

HEY, OUCH!

WHAP

YEAH. HE ALWAYS DOES.

*It's really annoying!*

MAIKO HAS REALLY GOOD GRADES?

GEE, I HAD NO IDEA.

*Awe-some!*

WE'RE NEXT TO EACH OTHER, RURI!

HOW 'BOUT THAT!

GOOD QUESTION.

PROBABLY PRETTY GOOD, I'D GUESS...

WONDER WHAT KIND OF GRADES SHE GETS. SINCE SHE'S NEW, I HAVE NO IDEA.

HUH?

YEAH, ME EITHER!

I DIDN'T SEE TACHIBANA'S NAME ANYWHERE.

HEY...


183 Saushori Tanaka
184 Chikao Gashuin
185 Marika Tachibana
186 Ichinosuke Ginzuka
187 Senkuro Yuarashi
188 Roxanne Goto

WHAT ON EARTH?!

Heh heh!

TA-DAA!

I'VE NEVER BEEN VERY GOOD IN SCHOOL.

I'M EMBARRASSED TO ADMIT IT, BUT...

...

GEE, WAY TO MAKE EVERYONE UNCOMFORTABLE...

I'VE ALWAYS INVESTED ALL MY ENERGIES IN LEARNING TO BE THE IDEAL WIFE FOR MY DARLING RAKU!

tee hee ♡

YOU SEEM MORE LIKE THE TYPE WHO EXCELS WITHOUT TRYING!

WOW, THAT'S SURPRISING.

WELL, DON'T SUGAR-COAT IT!

HONESTLY, I DON'T REALLY CARE.

WHAT?!

SKWEE

キュピーン!!

!!!

I KNOW, RAKU DEAR-EST!

WON'T YOU COME OVER AFTER SCHOOL TODAY AND TUTOR ME?

That's a lot of F's!

YOU'RE ON THE VERGE OF FLUNK-ING!

BUT IF YOU DON'T IMPROVE YOUR SCORES, YOU COULD REALLY BE IN TROUBLE.

YES. THE TEACHER SAID I'D HAVE TO DO A RETAKE IF I DON'T GET AT LEAST 40 POINTS ON MY NEXT MATH TEST.

ピーン! PING

You say that so proudly..

I'LL NEVER IMPROVE MY GRADES WITHOUT GUIDANCE!

YOU'RE UNDER-ESTIMATING HOW BAD I AM AT STUDYING!

Leggo, will ya?

WHY DON'T YOU STUDY ON YOUR OWN?!

EXCUSE ME!

YOU'RE CLEARLY NOT THE TYPE WHO'S GOOD AT TEACHING OTHERS!

HA HA! I JUST LOVE YOUR SENSE OF HUMOR!

I'M RANKED FIFTH IN OUR GRADE, AFTER ALL.

WHY DON'T I HELP YOU THEN?

FINE.

I DON'T MIND HELPING YOU...

BUT I DON'T SEE THE NEED TO PULL AN ALL-NIGHTER!

AU CON-TRAIRE!

YOU SEE...

ALL NIGHT?!

YOU'LL DO IT, WON'T YOU, RAKU DEAREST?

HOLD YOUR HORSES!

MY FATHER WON'T BE HOME TONIGHT. WE CAN STUDY DILIGENTLY TOGETHER ALL NIGHT!

...

ONE QUES-TION...

IT IS?!

You for-got ??

Oh, right!

Please?

...THE MATH TEST IS TOMOR-ROW!

WHY ARE YOU HERE, KIRISAKI?

BUT FRANKLY, I'D PREFER TO BE ALONE WITH MY DARLING RAKU!

IT'S NOT A PROBLEM, PER SE.

...WHY IS IT A PROB-LEM FOR ME TO BE HERE TOO?

IF ALL YOU WANT TO DO IS STUDY WITH A FRIEND...

WHY?

Not that I'd stay the night other-wise...

THANK GOD SHE'S HERE...

THANKS FOR BEING FRANK!

THAT WASN'T WHAT I HAD IN MIND...

I'LL EXPLAIN ANYTHING YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND!

COME ON! LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS!

WE MIGHT AS WELL START.

WELL, ANYWAY.

YEEP!

だき CLING!!

I DON'T UNDER-STAND THIS PROBLEM!!

RAKU DEAR-EST!!

SHF J" ソ...

IT'S EASIER IF I'M NEXT TO HIM...

YOU DON'T HAFTA CLING TO HIM TO STUDY!

GET SERIOUS!!

ヒョイ

HOIST

...

ぐすっ...

SNIFFLE

THANK GOD YOU'RE HERE, CHITOGE!

ドキ

QUIVER

ドキ

QUIVER

ポーイ!!

FLING

Waah!

OH, I SEE! I GET IT NOW!

WATCH. FIRST YOU DO THIS...

OH, FACTORING POLY-NOMIALS?

SO, WHAT PART DON'T YOU UNDER-STAND?

HUH?

$$b^2x^2 - a^2x^2$$

a= b= x=

IN OTHER WORDS...

IF I'M A AND RAKU DEAREST IS B AND KIRISAKI IS X...

WILL YOU HELP ME WITH THIS NOW?

OKAY, RAKU DEAR-EST!

SHOOP

LANGUAGE ARTS?

What about math?

Cor-rect.

HEY!!

DO YOU MIND?!

$$b^2x^2-a^2x^2$$

$$x^2(b+a)(b-a)$$

BASICALLY, I WANT TO SEPARATE OUT X!

TA-DAA!

*BOOK: LITERATURE

THAT'S CORRECT, RAKU DARLING!

NEXT QUESTION!

SHE DOESN'T JUST WANT TO WAIT, SHE WANTS TO GO AND FIND HIM...

WELL, LET'S SEE.

...

CAN YOU EXPLAIN THE YOUNG WOMAN'S PSYCHE IN THIS PASSAGE WAITING FOR HER HUSBAND'S RETURN?

I'M NOT SURE HOW TO SOLVE THIS ONE...

HUH?

My own home-work...

SOME TEACHER YOU ARE!

WHAAAT?

"YES," OR, "I'D LOVE TO."

I THOUGHT YOU WANTED TO STUDY!!

WHAT IS THE CORRECT RESPONSE WHEN A PASSIONATE YOUNG GIRL WHO'S BEEN DEVOTED TO YOU FOR TEN YEARS PROPOSES MARRIAGE?

STARE

?!

ビク…!!

FLINCH

ドキ…

LUB DUB

I tried just plugging in this formula, but...

WHAT PART DON'T YOU UNDER-STAND?

I'D BETTER HANDLE THIS.

THIS ONE...

FOR THE LATTER, I'M AFRAID I ABSOLUTELY INSIST UPON INTERFERING!

OR WITH YOUR TIME ALONE TO-GETHER?

WITH YOUR HOME-WORK?

INTER-FERING?

EX-CUSE ME...

...DO YOU MIND NOT INTER-FERING?

Did you pull some strings?

HOW DID YOU EVEN PASS OUR SCHOOL'S ENTRANCE EXAM?

WHY, CERTAINLY!

I'M AFRAID I'M JUST NOT ACADEMICALLY INCLINED...

DON'T YOU CARE THAT YOU MIGHT FLUNK?

ARE YOU TAKING THIS SERIOUSLY?

I JUST BARELY PASSED.

I PULLED AN ALL-NIGHTER THE NIGHT BEFORE THE TEST.

I'M KIDDING.

The power of love!

AN ALL-NIGHTER?

WHAAAAT?!

UUU

Tee hee!

SERI-OUSLY?!

ヘロカー WINK!!

DO YOU THINK SO?

I HAVE A HUNCH YOU'D DO FINE IF YOU TRIED A LITTLE.

HMM...

IT SOUNDS LIKE THE PROBLEM ISN'T YOUR INTELLIGENCE. IT'S JUST THAT YOU DON'T STUDY, RIGHT?

VERY WELL. I'LL DO MY BEST!

YOU'D BE HEART-BROKEN IF WE ENDED UP IN DIFFERENT GRADES?

OH, RAKU DARLING!!

THAT'S NOT WHAT I SAID!!

I'm thrilled!

GLEAM

OH!

I'LL HELP YOU.

GIVE IT YOUR BEST SHOT.

WE DON'T WANT YOU TO FLUNK, RIGHT?

DON'T THINK SO. I WAS IN PRESCHOOL...

YOU HELPED HER STUDY BACK THEN TOO?

IT REMINDS ME OF TEN YEARS AGO!

WHEN YOU TEACH ME...

TEE HEE!

SUCH FOND MEMO-RIES...

SONGS. STORIES ABOUT FRIENDS ...

WHAT PRESCHOOL IS LIKE...

YOU TAUGHT ME SO MUCH!

FUN THINGS TO DO ALONE...

コチ... TICK...

コチ... TOCK...

WORMP

うと...

HLF...

すZZZ…

ZZZ…

WAIT A SEC!!

THEY'RE BOTH ASLEEP?!

OOPS…

I NODDED OFF…

OH, RAKU…

IT'S THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT.

She said the bedding was in here…

WELL, I CAN'T BLAME THEM.

…I LOVE YOU…

OH, RAKU…

すZZZ…

PLENTY OF GUYS WOULD KILL TO BE WITH HER.

SHE'S GORGEOUS AND ALL THE GUYS LIKE HER.

SHE'S KINDA WEIRD, BUT SHE'S SWEET.

すー ZZZ ー…

HOW COME SHE LIKES ME SO MUCH?

HONESTLY…

すー ZZZ …

ドッキ…

LUB DUB

ドッキ…

LUB DUB

OH, RAKUUU …

YOU NAUGHTY BOY!

WE MUSTN'T!

…WHEN SOMEONE SAYS…

IT'S WEIRD…

LUB DUB

ドキン…

…THEY LOVE YOU.

LUB DUB

ドキン…

?!

OOOH …

ゴロ… ROLL

Tee hee.♡

YOU'RE AWAKE!!

WELL, IF YOU INSIST...

...!!

...I SUP-POSE...

Shee'sh...

OKAY, OKAY!

I'LL GET SERIOUS!

GRR!

ゴォー!!

EITHER GET SERIOUS OR GET SOME SLEEP!

HMM?

I TOTALLY FELL ASLEEP!

OH, DEAR!

yawn

OH!

ﾅｭﾝ… CHIRP

CHIRP ﾅｭﾝ…

Drink this!

Eat these! *Not all at once or you'll get sleepy!

FLIT

HMM?

...

I WAS SNUG AS A BUG THANKS TO YOU!

RAKU DEAREST... YOU'RE SO SWEET!

tee hee hee ♡

SNUGGLE

KREAK...

I REAL-LY...

HEE HEE...

ZZZ

Attention! Pages 62-69 are important! They'll probably be on the test! Memorize the formula on page 70! Solve the problems I underlined in red and you'll be OK.

...RAKU!

...LOVE YOU...

GLRF...?

つが...?

UGH.

MAYBE AN ALL-NIGHTER WASN'T GOOD ENOUGH.

THIS LOOKS SUPER HARD.

ペロン…

FWIP

ALL RIGHT, CLASS.

TURN OVER YOUR TESTS!

FANTASTIC!

I'M PRETTY SURE I'VE GOT EXACTLY 40 POINTS HERE!

Amazing!

yawn

yaawn

THIS ONE TOO!

AND THIS ONE!

a

c

OH!

I DID A PROBLEM LIKE THIS WITH RAKU DEAREST...

NOW I WON'T HAVE TO DO A RETAKE...

BUT YOU WERE GETTING ZEROES BEFORE, SO YOU MADE PROGRESS!

GUESS YOU'LL HAVE TO RETAKE IT.

FOR REAL?!

38

1-C

橘 万里花

DARN, TACHI-BANA! YOU WERE SO CLOSE!

DA-DA-DUM!!

OH NO! 38 POINTS!

I'M AFRAID I HAVE TO RETAKE THE TEST!

OH, RAKU DAAAR-LING!

SHE WOULD'VE GOTTEN IT RIGHT IF SHE HADN'T!

So close! a

WAIT...

LOOKS LIKE SHE CHANGED HER ANSWER HERE.

?

...WON'T YOU?

YOU'LL HELP ME STUDY AGAIN...

I'm afraid that's not pos-sible.

How about studying on your own for a change ?!

HERE WE GO AGAIN ...

IT'S NO BIG DEAL.

I'M FINE.

...WITH YOUR DELICATE CONSTITUTION!

PULLING AN ALL-NIGHTER ...

YOU SHOULD TAKE BETTER CARE OF YOURSELF, MISTRESS.

I GET IT!

OKAY, OKAY.

YOU SHOULD USE BETTER JUDGMENT, MISTRESS!

AND THAT STUNT AT THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL...

...NOT TO PROTECT YOU.

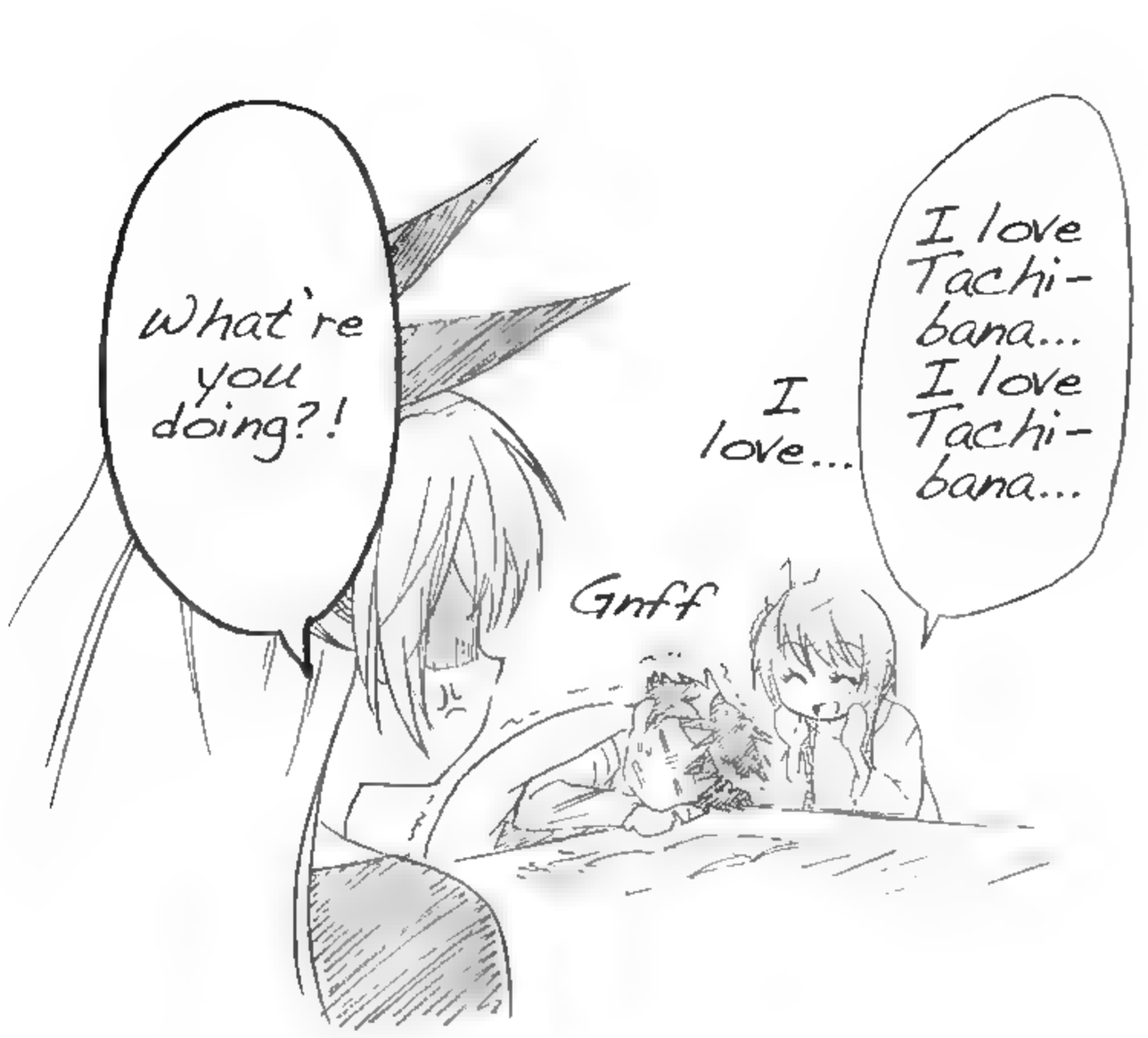
I WAS APPOINTED TO SUPERVISE YOU...

SHFF

DON'T FORGET...

...AWARE OF THAT FACT.

I'M QUITE...


What're you doing?!
I love...
I love Tachi-bana...
I love Tachi-bana...
Gnff



# Chapter 57: Notice Me!

Onodera?!!

ACHOO!!

ヘキチュ!!

WOW, SHE HAS A CUTE SNEEZE ...

REALLY? EVEN WITH THAT HEAVY PARKA ON?

GEE, IT SURE IS COLD THESE DAYS.

!!!

PEEK-

YES... BECAUSE I'M NOT WEARING ANYTHING UNDER-NEATH.

SEE?

Onodera?!

パシャ

KLIK

NICE!

OH, THAT'S GOOD!

パシャ

KLIK

WHAT?!

Okay!

OKAY. NOW LET'S GET ONE OF YOU AND RAKU TOGETHER.

Like this?

!!

キュッ

SQUEEZE ...

YES. CLOSER, NOW. CLOSER!

カ BLUSH...

カ BLUSH...

ﾅｺﾝ TWEET...

ﾅｺﾝ TWEET...

RAKU'S SUNDAY (THE END)

MY LIPS ARE SO CHAPPED!

UGH...

HERE! USE MINE!

LIP GLOSS?

DON'T YOU WEAR LIP GLOSS, CHITOGE?

SHF

Lip Water

IT MAKES YOUR LIPS SUPER SOFT AND MOIST!

TA-DAA!

IT'S NEW. I JUST GOT IT.

Thanks!

Wanna try some?

YES! IT'S MADDENING HOW GOOD IT LOOKS ON YOU!

R-REALLY?

You look gor-geous!

IT LOOKS GREAT ON YOU, CHITOGE!

WOW! YOU LOOK AMAZING!

HEY... OUCH!

Quit it!

DAMN, GIRL! YOU SHOULD BE A MODEL!

Gush gush

TICKLE TICKLE

SMOOSH SMOOSH

Everything looks good on you!

I WONDER IF HE'LL THINK I LOOK GOOD...

WILL HE?

BET YOUR BOYFRIEND ICHIJO WILL GO WILD WHEN HE SEES YOU!

Wear it tomorrow and see!

LUB DUB!

WHAT?! REALLY?

IF YOU LIKE IT, YOU CAN KEEP IT.

SURE. IT LOOKS BETTER ON YOU ANYWAY. BESIDES, I HAVE MORE THAN I NEED.

GOOD MORNING, DARLING!

GOOD...

HMM?

HE CAN BE PRETTY DENSE...

I DUNNO...

TWEET ピュン..

TWEET ピュン...

YAWN ふぁ..

OH, G'MORNING, HONEY!

SURE IS COLD TODAY, HUH?

UM, WHAT DO WE HAVE FOR FIRST PERIOD TODAY?

ENGLISH, I THINK.

WE DIDN'T HAVE ANY HOME-WORK FOR IT.

LUB DUB ドキ

LUB DUB ドキ

HMPH.

HE TOTALLY DIDN'T NOTICE.

NOT THAT I'M SUR-PRISED...

SHIMMER つやん...

...GET PRETTY CHAPPED.

I MEAN...

MY LIPS...

IT SURE HAS BEEN DRY, HUH?

BY THE WAY...

OH... YEAH?

HUH?

A-HE-HEM!

AHEM!

HMM?

And it takes forever to heal!

THEY GET ALL BLOODY AND PAINFUL.

MINE REALLY GET CHAPPED DURING WINTER.

SIGH

YEAH, TOTALLY.

LIPS?

LUB DUB

ドキ…!!

I'M PRACTICALLY HITTING YOU OVER THE HEAD, HERE!

Yeah, I hate that.

UM, HELLO?

HEY, CHI-TOGE!
GOOD MORNING!
HEY...
SHEESH!
WHAT NOW?!
DO YOU EVER EVEN LOOK AT ME?!
YOU JERK! THAT TOOK COURAGE, YOU KNOW!
GRUMBLE
もにゃ
GRUMBLE
もにゃ
??
??
NOW I'M REALLY DETERMINED...
...TO MAKE HIM NOTICE ME!
FOOSH
かばっ!!
YOU'RE WEARING LIP GLOSS!
?
IT'S SUPER CUTE!
MLF!
はぐ!!
WHSH
パ=ッ!
SHAAA
ヤアアアア...
OH!
BUT...
HE'S SO DENSE, MAYBE LIP GLOSS IS TOO SUBTLE.

KA-

アア

MORNING, BEAN SPROUT!

...FEELS WARM-ER...

...THAN YESTERDAY!

-FWAA

ハァァ...!!

MORN-ING...

AHEM!

YOU KNOW, SOME-HOW...

...THE AIR TODAY...

HE'S GOT TO NOTICE THIS!

I USED A SUPER EXPENSIVE SHAMPOO TODAY!

WELL?

ふわ...!

FWSH

HUH?

ACHOO!

PLUS, IT'S CRAZY FRAGRANT.

GET A WHIFF OF THIS, PAL!

MY SUPER FANCY SHAMPOO... DISMISSED WITH A SNEEZE?!

YOU'RE THE STUPIDEST BEAN SPROUT EVER!!

WHY YOU LITTLE...

Sniff

FEELS EVEN COLDER TO ME...

YOU THINK SO?

SHP

SHP

I'VE GOT TO MAKE IT SUPER EASY FOR HIM.

HOW CAN I EXPECT A DUNCE LIKE HIM TO NOTICE?

SOME-TIMES EVEN GIRLS DON'T NOTICE STUFF LIKE LIP GLOSS AND SHAMPOO.

WAIT... CHILL OUT, CHITOGE...

BUT IT TURNED OUT GREAT!

I HARDLY EVER DO MY NAILS...

HOW'S THAT?

TA-DAA!!

WELL?

HE'S GOT TO NOTICE NOW!!

100

ハテスト

現代文

バーン!! BAM

WHAT DO YOU THINK?!

HEY, RAKU!

YEAH?

YOU CAN HAVE IT BACK.

HERE'S THE WORK-SHEET YOU LENT ME.

SHF カサ...

ﾍﾟﾗ... FWIP

OH...

POKE

WHAT WAS THAT FOR?!

H-HEY!!

ガタ…
CLATTER

OUCH!!

WHAT A COMPLETE MORON!!

SHEESH! HOW DENSE CAN YOU GET?!

SIGH

WHAT?! W-WHY?!

OH, REALLY? NEXT TIME I'LL PUNCH YOU!

THAT HURT!! WHY'D YOU DO THAT?!

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

ざわ…
MURMUR

ざわ…
MURMUR

ざわ…
MURMUR

…NO HOLDING BACK!!

OKAY…

OR DOES HE KNOW AND JUST NOT SAY ANYTHING? EITHER WAY…ARGH!!

WHY DOESN'T HE NOTICE?

SPARKLE キラン

SPARKLE キラン

HAHH HAHH

HAHH HAHH HAHH

NOW...

FWIP ピコッ!!

HOW ABOUT...?

...THIS?!

TA-DAA!!

DA-DUM!!

がばっ GLMF

IT'S SO CUTE...

WOW, CHITOGE! YOU CHANGED YOUR RIBBON!

HE CAN'T IGNORE SOMETHING LIKE THIS!!

TWINKLE ピコ TWINKLE ピコ

HE'LL NOTICE THIS TIME!

HUH? OH, 'MORNING, HONEY PUMPKIN.

I OVERSLEPT A LITTLE.

WELL, WELL, DARLING!

YOU'RE LATE TODAY!

CLATTER がらっ

JOLT ビクッ!!

G'MORN-ING!

?? ??

'Course, we still have plenty of time before it's due...

YOU KNOW THAT ASSIGNMENT FROM YESTERDAY?

I WANTED TO GET IT DONE EARLY, BUT IT WAS HARDER THAN I THOUGHT.

CLATTER ガタ...

OH, REALLY?

FOR REAL?!

DID HE REALLY NOT NOTICE?!

HE DIDN'T SAY ANY-THING!!

WHAT?!!

WHAT... WHAT KIND OF ANSWER IS THAT?!

YOU'RE IN A NICE MOOD?

UM...

What's up?

UM, HELLO?

DO YOU NOTICE ANYTHING DIFFERENT ABOUT ME?

HUH?

フリン…
SWISH
フリン…
SWISH
HUH?
I STUDIED A BUNCH LAST NIGHT TOO. MY NECK IS SUPER SORE...
OH, REALLY?
STREEETCH
くぐ"ぐ"——…
W-WHAT?!
Ha hd...
?
OH, YEAH? YOU ACTUALLY STUDIED?
SURE YOU DIDN'T JUST LIE AROUND WATCHING TV?
SWISH
フリン…
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!!
ピロリロリン♪
CHMP…
DOES HE EVEN LOOK AT ME AT ALL?!
HOW CAN I MAKE HIM NOTICE?!
MY RIBBON'S, LIKE, MY TRADEMARK!
IF HE NOTICED, HE'D SAY SOMETHING, RIGHT?
DID HE REALLY NOT NOTICE?!
WHY DOESN'T HE SAY SOME-THING?!
HOW CAN ANYONE BE SO DENSE?!
DING DONG

SO THE WAY I LOOK MATTERS LESS THAN THAT?

WHO CARES WHETHER I HAVE BEEF OR HAM?!

AUUGH!!

OH, BUT YOU NOTICE THAT?!

HEY...

YOU USUALLY HAVE KOBE BEEF IN YOUR LUNCH, BUT TODAY YOU'VE GOT IBERICO HAM.

That stuff has lots of vitamins.

Y-YES?!

JOLT

EXCUSEZ-MOI, MONSIEUR ICHIJO!

NOTICE ME! NOTICE ME! NOTICE MEEE!!

I CAN'T STAND IT!!

HUH?

HAVE YOU NOTICED ANYTHING DIFFERENT ABOUT ME LATELY?

SHP

I HAVE...

...A LITTLE QUIZ FOR YOU, DARLING BOYFRIEND.

GEEZ, THIS IS EMBAR-RASSING...

KA-FWAM

YOU GAINED WEI...

HOW SHOULD I KNOW ??

WELL, UM... OH...

IS SOMETHING DIFFERENT?

GRR!! ムカー!!

I MEAN, TOTALLY! YOU TOTALLY LOOK DIFFERENT!!

YOU GOT TALLER?

NOPE! THESE ARE NATUR-AL!

YOU'RE WEAR-ING MAS-CARA?

NO!

UM... YOU CUT YOUR BANGS ?

WHAT, ALL OF A SUDDEN?!

S-S-SORRY!! JUST K-KIDDING, OKAY?

YOU JERK !!

...

WELL, APART FROM THAT...

I CAN'T BELIEVE I ACTUALLY LIKE THIS GUY...

GLARE

WANT ME TO SLUG YOU AGAIN?

YOU'RE ON A NEW DIET...

WAIT A SEC...

YOU MEAN THE LIP GLOSS YOU STARTED WEARING THREE DAYS AGO?

HUH?

THAT'S REALLY WHAT YOU MEANT?

...

YOU NOTICED ?

YEAH ...

YOUR SHAMPOO SMELLED DIFFERENT.

AND MY SHAMPOO ?

AND MY NAILS?

YEAH, THAT TOO...

WHAT ?!

GIMME A BREAK!!

WELL, WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY ANYTHING ?!

HUH?

...DO WE REALLY HAVE TO SAY SOMETHING...

I MEAN, WHEN GUYS NOTICE THAT STUFF...

...WHEN WE THINK YOU LOOK GOOD?

uWait!

カァァァ BLUSH

BLUSH カァァァ...

HOW COME I HAVE TO...

I MEAN, THIS IS WEIRD, RIGHT?

CANCEL WHAT??

WHAT?!

CANCEL THAT!

H-HOLD UP!

...YOU DIDN'T LIKE ANY OF THAT STUFF?

OR ARE YOU SAYING...

I WOULDN'T GO THAT FAR...

...

I DIDN'T LOOK GOOD AT ALL?

IF YOU WANT GIRLS TO LIKE YOU, YOU SHOULD MAKE AN EFFORT!

IT'S IMPORTANT TO GIRLS THAT GUYS NOTICE THAT STUFF!

IT'S NOT WEIRD!

I GUESS...

YOU HAVE BEEN LOOKIN' PRETTY GOOD, MADEMOISELLE.

How come my heart's pounding? Sheesh!

LUB DUB LUB DUB

I'M HAPPY.

OKAY.

What?! You didn't notice?!! You really ARE dense!!

What? You changed your ribbon? Whoa!!

So, what do you think of my ribbon?


"Lookin' pretty good, Mademoiselle..."
Lookin' pretty good...
...Mademoiselle!
Heh heh!
Heh heh heh!

...SURE IS A LOT OF TROUBLE!

BEING IN LOVE...

!

...IF ONLY YOU HAD THE COURAGE TO REACH OUT AND SEIZE IT.

WITH HAPPI-NESS ALMOST WITHIN GRASP...

ELATED ONE MINUTE, FULL OF DOUBT THE NEXT...

CLATTER ガラッ

HUH?

...I CAN SEE INTO PEOPLE'S HEARTS MORE CLEARLY THAN MOST.

BUT SOME-HOW, THROUGH THESE GLASS-ES...

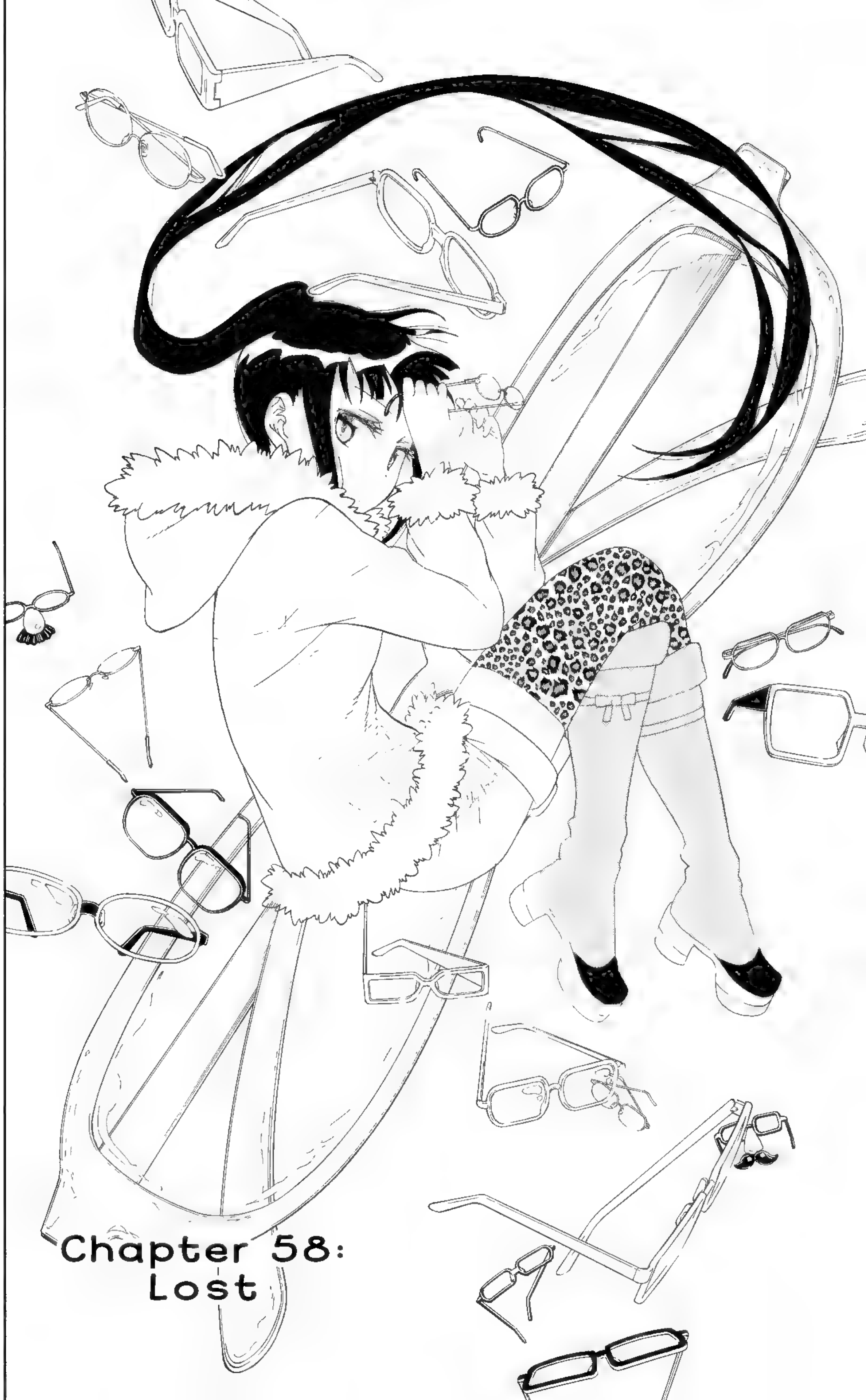
I'VE NEVER BEEN IN LOVE.

OF COURSE, I CAN'T REALLY TALK.

...MY GLASSES GO?

?

WHERE DID...



# Chapter 58: Lost

WHAT?

YOU LOST YOUR GLASSES, MIYAMOTO?

I GUESS SO.

I WAS IN THE HALLWAY WHEN I NOTICED THEY WERE DIRTY.

I SET THEM DOWN AND WENT BACK TO CLASS TO GET MY CLEANING CLOTH...

CLATTER ガラ...

BUT WHEN I GOT BACK...

Huh?

I FIGURED THEY PROBABLY FELL DOWN INTO THE GARDEN, SO I WENT AND LOOKED...

...BUT I COULDN'T FIND THEM.

WITHOUT YOUR GLASSES...

...IT MUST BE EXTRA HARD TO FIND THEM!

DON'T WORRY. WE'LL HELP YOU LOOK. JUST SHOW US WHERE.

I REALLY APPRECIATE IT.

YOO HOO!

I'LL HELP!

RURI LOST HER GLASSES?

THEY'RE BUSY TODAY. THEY ALREADY LEFT.

CHITOGE AND TSUGUMI, MAYBE?

I WONDER IF THERE'S ANYONE ELSE WHO COULD HELP.

TACHI-BANA WENT HOME ALREADY, TOO.

LET'S *NOT* LOOK FOR RURI'S GLASSES!

?

WAIT, I HAVE AN IDEA!

/!.,!!

OH!

Geez ...

C'MON, DON'T BE LIKE THAT! WE'RE FOUR-EYED FRIENDS, REMEMBER?

NO WE'RE NOT.

NO THANKS.

I'D RATHER NOT OWE YOU A FAVOR.

I'M SURE THE THREE OF US CAN HANDLE IT.

LET'S GO.

UH... OKAY U ...

...WITHOUT YOUR GLA... YEEOWCH!

YOU KNOW, YOU'RE EVEN LOVELIER ...

KA-CHOP!!!

ゴシゴシ…
RUB RUB
CLATTER
ガラッ!!
?!!
WHUDD
KA-
!!!
FWUD
RURI ?!
MIYA-MOTO ?!
ボト
BLRRR
I DIDN'T REALIZE YOUR VISION WAS THAT BAD...
ARE YOU OKAY??
IT'S GOTTEN A LOT WORSE RECENT-LY...
むく…
GLANCE

LET'S GO DOWN TOGETHER, OKAY?

WOW, THIS IS SERI-OUS!!

OKAY. THANKS.

I'M OVER HERE, MIYA-MOTO !!

Huh?

WHY DON'T YOU GO ON AHEAD, ICHIJO?

I'M FINE. DON'T WORRY.

I'LL BE RIGHT THERE.

JUST KIDDING! THESE ARE MY GLASSES!!

Bwa ha ha ha! Tricked ya!

WHERE ON EARTH ...

VOOSH

SHP ば——ん!!

SEE?

OH!

LOOK! I FOUND YOUR GLASSES!!

HEY, RURI!

GNRF?!

ŪWAM!!

ヒュカ!!

MAYBE SOMEONE TURNED THEM IN TO THE OFFICE?

I CHECKED JUST NOW, BUT THEY WEREN'T THERE.

I'LL CHECK AGAIN IN A BIT...

SHP

+7...

WHAT THE ...?!

I THOUGHT YOU COULDN'T SEE!!

HOW ...?!

AUGH!! WAAAAH!!

WHOMP ドスゥ!!

FWUD ボグ!!

バギ

WHAKKA

KRAK

ベギ

ガッ

SHFF

ガサ

SO...

...THIS IS WHERE YOU DROPPED THEM?

I THINK SO...

HERE THEY ARE!!

For real?!

HUH?!

!

OH!

ガサ...

RUSTLE

IF THEY'RE HERE, IT SHOULDN'T TAKE LONG TO FIND THEM..

HMM...

ガサガサ...

RUSTLE

RUSTLE

THAT'S A PLASTIC BOTTLE!

OH!!

NOPE. JUST A SHOE.

THAT'S A DARUMA DOLL...

WHERE THE HECK DID THAT COME FROM??

OH!!

THAT ACTUALLY LOOKED LIKE GLASSES TO YOU?!

SHF

ボロ

GLINT

ン

IF THEY AREN'T HERE, WHERE COULD THEY BE?

GEEZ, I WONDER WHERE THEY COULD BE?

I WAS BACK THERE A LITTLE WHILE AGO...

...THERE'S A DARK, WOODED AREA WHERE NOBODY EVER GOES.

OUT BEHIND THE ANNEX...

ACTUALLY, THERE'S ONE OTHER PLACE THEY MIGHT BE.

WHERE'S THAT?

OH!

SINCE I REALLY CAN'T SEE ANYTHING, WOULD YOU TWO MIND GOING AND CHECKING?

B-B-BUT... RURI...

Didn't you leave them on the window-sill in the hall?!

WAIT, YOU'RE SERIOUS?!

HEAD-SHAKING EXERCISES?!

U U

ブォオオオオ

UWHRRR

...DOING MY HEAD-SHAKING EXERCISES...

...AND MY GLASSES MIGHT HAVE FALLEN OFF.

オォォォオオ

UWRRR

ONODERA

Don't worry about me.

IT'S THE PERFECT OPPOR-TUNITY!

YOU TWO CAN TALK THINGS OVER.

WHY? YOU KNOW YOU WANT TO...

SKWEE!

QUIT TRYING TO GET ME AND RAKU ALONE TOGETHER!!

CUT IT OUT, WILL YOU?

RURI!! THAT'S ICHIJO!!

IT'S THE PERFECT SPOT TO FOOL AROUND!!

NOBODY CAN HEAR YOU BACK THERE.

Huh? Whatcha talkin' 'bout?

WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?

NOTHING.

OKAY... SEE YOU!!

WHY CAN'T SHE BE MORE UPFRONT ABOUT IT?

!?

!?

Maybe some-one turned them in!!

I'M GOING TO CHECK THE OFFICE AGAIN!!

AUGH!!

??

Sheesh...

...IF YOU WEREN'T SO CLUE-LESS.

THEY WOULDN'T BE WEIRD...

YOU SAY WEIRD THINGS SOMETIMES, MIYAMOTO.

HEY...

MIYAMOTO?

WHAT?

...EVEN THOUGH WE WERE IN JUNIOR HIGH TOGETHER, I NEVER SPENT MUCH TIME ALONE WITH MIYAMOTO.

NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT...

SHUF

ガサ ガサ

SHUF

SINCE THAT TIME AT THE POOL, I GUESS.

EEP!!

U U

EW?

JOLT

S-S-SORRY!!

GYYYY

WHY WOULD I TELL YOU IF SHE DID?

SHUF

SHUF

SHUF

DOES ONODERA HAVE A CRUSH ON ANYONE?

I WAS JUST WONDER-ING...

THE GUY KOSAKI LIKES...

HUH?

... YOU REALLY HAVEN'T FIGURED IT OUT?

SIGH

フゥ…

HOW CAN HE BE SO DENSE?

He's almost as bad as Kosaki!!

IT'S GETTING ANNOY-ING.

ONODERA DOES?! FOR REAL?!

SHE LIKES SOME-ONE?!

IDIOT...

HOW ABOUT PAYING A LITTLE ATTENTION...

...TO THE GIRL YOU'RE AROUND ALL THE TIME?

...

THE GIRL I'M AROUND ?

I WEAR GLASSES ...

...BUT I SEE A LOT BETTER THAN YOU DO.

HOW CAN YOU...

...BE SO BLIND?

HUH?

WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU TWO?!

IT'S SO OBVIOUS.

IT'S AS PLAIN AS DAY.

OPEN YOUR EYES AND PAY ATTENTION!

I MEAN...

GRRR

イラッ!!

YOU MEAN CHITOGE?

...KOSAKI !!

BUT I DO PAY ATTENTION TO HER!

PAY ATTENTION TO ONODERA?

WHY DOESN'T HE SEE IT?

THE GUY...

...KOSAKI LIKES IS...

CON-STANT-LY!

I PAY ATTEN-TION...

WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

NO, YOU DON'T.

WHAT'RE YOU TRYING TO SAY?!

I DON'T UNDER-STAND!

SHEESH!

...

LISTEN...

WELL? DIDJA FIND YOUR GLASSES?!

TA-DAA!!

Y...

OH, I JUST NOTICED YOU DOWN HERE...

THOUGHT I'D COME SEE HOW YOU'RE DOING!

SHU?

WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?

NO...

NOBODY'S TURNED THEM IN.

ONO-DERA!

ANY LUCK?

OH!

MAIKO?

HA HA! DON'T WORRY. I'M NOT HERE TO HELP.

I WAS JUST LEAV-ING!

I TOLD YOU, I DON'T NEED YOUR HELP.

GO AWAY.

WAIT HERE, OKAY?

RURI! WE'RE GOING TO CHECK UPSTAIRS AGAIN!

OKAY. THANKS.

Maybe they're still in the hallway?

Hmm. Maybe we should check?

ニコッ！ GRIN

I KNEW IT. YOU INTER-RUPTED ON PUR-POSE!

...

C'MON, NOW.

YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T INTERFERE.

ISN'T IT NATURAL TO WANT TO HELP A FRIEND?

IT'S FRUS-TRATING JUST WATCHING THEM.

THEY BOTH LIKE EACH OTHER..

WHY SHOULDN'T I?

I JUST WANT THEM TO FIGURE IT OUT.

WHY?

THE END RESULT IS THE SAME!

...HAVE TO FIND THE COURAGE TO TELL EACH OTHER HOW THEY FEEL.

I THINK THE TWO OF THEM...

IT'S NATURAL TO WANT TO HELP.

SURE.

BUT...

...BETWEEN ACHIEVING SOMETHING YOURSELF AND HAVING SOMEONE DO IT FOR YOU.

CALL ME SENTIMENTAL, BUT I THINK THERE'S A HUGE DIFFERENCE...

IT MIGHT LOOK THE SAME, BUT IT'S NOT!

...

OH.

*Like I care!*

I LIKE A GIRL RIGHT NOW!

NOT TRUE!

I BET YOU'VE NEVER EVEN LIKED A GIRL!

HOW DO YOU KNOW?

HEY, MIYAMOTO!

...

WELL, KOSAKI'S MY FRIEND ...

HE DESERVES IT.

I WANT HIM TO HAVE THE EXPERIENCE OF FIGHTING HIS OWN BATTLES.

RAKU'S MY BEST FRIEND.

WE FOUND THEM!!

TA-DAA!!

YOUR GLASSES!

SHFF...!!

YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE WHERE WE FOUND THEM!

IT'S A LONG STORY.

YOU'RE A MESS!

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?

CHATTER CHATTER

わいの

わいの

WHERE WERE THEY?!

I KNOW, RIGHT? WHO WOULD'VE THOUGHT IT!

IT WAS A TOTAL FLASH OF INSPIRA-TION!

I DON'T PAY ATTENTION TO ONODERA?

WHAT WAS MIYAMOTO TRYING TO SAY YESTERDAY?

SO...

ひっ…
GLANCE

ICHIJO…

ガタ…
SHFF...

I DIDN'T SLEEP A WINK LAST NIGHT!

THIS IS TERRIBLE!

SHE LIKES SOME-BODY?!

ARGH!!

THAT WAS A JOKE.

ABOUT KOSAKI LIKING SOMEONE...

ANY-WAY...

...

THAT'S ALL I WANTED TO SAY.

MUMBLE

MUMBLE

UH... I MEAN... FORGET IT.

SHFF ガタ...

OH?

WHAT'S SO MEAN ABOUT IT?

SERIOUSLY, MIYAMOTO?! THAT'S A SUPER MEAN JOKE!!

GAH!!

くぅわ!!

SURE! BE RIGHT THERE, ONO-DERA!

HEY, ICHIJO! GOT A MINUTE?

NOW I'LL BE ABLE TO SLEEP AGAIN!!

ONODERA DOESN'T LIKE SOMEONE! I'M SO RELIEVED!!

YIPPEE!!!

HMPH!

フン!

GRIN

ニヤ ニヤ

...MY FOUR-EYED FRIEND.

...MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT...

...

JUST THIS ONCE...

Secretly, he was helping.



# Chapter 59: Long Time No See


NISEKOI
False Love

IT'S ALMOST CHRISTMAS!

WOW...

I'LL BE AT HOME.

I MEAN, OF COURSE I'LL BE WITH HONEY HERE...

Oh, boo...

MY FATHER WON'T BE HOME ON CHRISTMAS EVE...

OH, RAKU DEAREST?

NOTHING SPECIAL...

DO YOU ALL HAVE PLANS ALREADY?

SO...

WHISPER

AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, WE...

WHAT SHOULD WE REALLY DO?

ざわ YAMMER

HEY, WHY DON'T WE HAVE A CHRISTMAS PARTY?

WE'LL ALL GET TOGETHER AND CUT LOOSE...

SURE...

I SUPPOSE SOMEONE'LL HAVE TO PLAN IT...

BUT IT WAS MY IDEA!

SIGH

# 71

WORMP

C-C-C...

C-CHRIS...

C-CHRISTMAS...

CHITOGE ?!

TREMBLE ブル ブル TREMBLE

QUIVER ガタ

QUIVER ガタ

QUIVER ガタ

WHAT?

YEAH.

I STILL DON'T GET WHY CHRISTMAS FREAKS YOU OUT.

...

I WON'T BE ABLE TO COME TO THE PARTY.

SHE ALWAYS COMES HOME FOR CHRISTMAS, AND WE SPEND IT AS A FAMILY.

YOUR MOM'S COMING HOME?

...RUNS A MULTI-NATIONAL BUSINESS CONGLOM-ERATE.

MY MOM...

WHAT?

SHE TRAVELS ALL OVER THE WORLD.

The U.S.?

COME TO THINK OF IT, WHERE IS YOUR MOM, ANYWAY?

SHE DOESN'T LIVE WITH YOU, RIGHT?

THEY SAY HER MOOD DICTATES JAPAN'S ECONOMY ON ANY GIVEN DAY.

ARE YOU SERIOUS?!

...

HER SCHEDULE'S BOOKED SOLID FOR THE NEXT TEN YEARS.

Might be more now.

SHE HAS BUSINESSES ALL OVER THE GLOBE.

LAST I HEARD, SHE HAD A TEN-FIGURE INCOME.

*SIGN: BONYARI PARK

I MEAN, EVEN THOUGH SHE'S SUPER BUSY, SHE ALWAYS SPENDS CHRISTMAS WITH YOU.

STILL, SHE SOUNDS LIKE A GOOD MOM.

...

I... GUESS SO.

...WHEN SHE GETS MAD.

SHE'S REALLY SCARY...

She's that scary?!

ブル QUIVER ブル QUIVER

BUT...

...MORE IMPOR-TANTLY ...

I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE...

HONEST-LY...

...TO HAVE A MOM.

AND AS FAR BACK AS I CAN REMEMBER, I'D ONLY SEE HER A FEW TIMES A YEAR.

BUT SHE WENT BACK TO WORK AFTER THAT...

SHE HAD ME WHEN SHE WAS PRETTY YOUNG.

I'M...

...NOT REALLY COMFORT-ABLE AROUND HER.

OH?

キィ...

KREAK

tinga linga ling

HUH?!

NOBODY'S FORCING YOU! GEEZ!!

WHY AM I TELLING YOU ALL THIS?!

MOM'S COMING HOME TOMORROW.

OH?

BUT IT'S NOT CHRISTMAS YET.

AND...

KCHAK

WHAT WAS IT?

HMM?

IT'S MY DAD. WHAT DOES HE WANT?

WHAT?!

HUSTLE BUSTLE
#"7
HUSTLE BUSTLE
#"7...

!!

DAD WANTS TO INTRODUCE YOU TO HER.

HE SAID TO INVITE YOU OVER.

HUSTLE
バタ
BUSTLE
バタ

WHOA...

HUSTLE
ドタドタ
BUSTLE

WHERE'S THE WINE I ORDERED? STILL NOT HERE?

RUSH
バタバタ
RUSH

WE'RE ON IT!

HOW ARE THE DECORATIONS? IS THE FOOD READY?

HEY!

SHAH

ナナー!!

"MADAM FLOWER"?

YAP YAP
わー
わー

MY MOM.

*MADAM FLOWER* WILL BE HERE SOON!

GET A MOVE ON!

IT'S LIKE A RED ALERT AROUND HERE...

EVERYONE'S REALLY RUSHING AROUND.

IS THIS REALLY NECESSARY?

You look fancy!

GOOD. YOU WORE A SUIT.

SHE'S JUST YOUR MOM, RIGHT?

MY MOM'S FIRST NAME...

...IS HANA.

*HANA IN JAPANESE MEANS FLOWER.

...YOU'LL REALLY REGRET IT!

AND IF YOU SAY OR DO ANYTHING DUMB IN FRONT OF MY MOM...

DON'T BE AN IDIOT!

HOW SCARY CAN SHE BE?

YOU CHANGED IT UP THAT ONE TIME...

...

WELL, I DO HAVE OTHERS...

HUH?

EVEN WITH YOUR FANCI-EST OUTFIT ...

YOU STILL WEAR THAT RIBBON, HUH?

OKAY, OKAY!

DAD'S PRESENT-ING YOU AS MY BOYFRIEND!

BE ON YOUR BEST BEHAVIOR!

HELLO, SIR.

THANKS FOR COMING ON SHORT NOTICE.

HOW'VE YOU BEEN?

...

LONG TIME NO SEE, RAKU!

MY MOM GAVE IT TO ME. A LONG TIME AGO.

BUT THIS RIBBON IS SPECIAL.

NO WAY, DAD! YOU'RE STAYING RIGHT HERE!

EVERYONE'S TERRIFIED!

CAN YOU HANDLE THIS WITHOUT ME?

DADDY'S TUMMY'S FEELING SICK ALL OF A SUDDEN.

...

BY THE WAY, CHI-TOGE ...

I'M GLAD YOU MADE IT.

CHITOGE'S MOTHER DOESN'T COME HOME OFTEN, AND I WANTED HER TO MEET YOU.

NO PROB-LEM.

KCHAM

SHE'S HERE!

STATIONS, EVERY-ONE!!

JOLT

ビク=!!

MADAM FLOWER HAS ARRIVED!!

WHOOM

I'M HOME.

...

EVEN IF SHE HAD CHITOGE YOUNG...

WAIT A SEC...

TALK ABOUT HIGH-IMPACT!

SHE'S SUPER GORGEOUS.

TMP カ"ノ..

TMP カ"ノ..

TMP カ"ノ..

WELCOME HOME, MADAM!!

THIS IS... CHI-TOGE'S MOM?

...

SHE COULD BE CHITOGE'S BIG SISTER!!

SHE'S TOO YOUNG!

ADELT!

HOW I'VE MISSED YOU!

WELCOME BACK, LIGHT OF MY LIFE!

SPARKLE キ!!ﾝﾉ!!

HANA!

HOW LONG WILL YOU BE IN JAPAN?

イチャ♡ LOVEY

イチャ♡ DOVEY

UNTIL CHRISTMAS NIGHT.

BUT I ONLY HAVE TWO HOURS AND THIRTY-SIX MINUTES FOR FAMILY TIME.

アハハ…

AH HA HA!

IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU, ADELT!

I MISSED YOU TOO!

SUCH A HARD WORKER.

YOU'VE LOST WEIGHT, HAVEN'T YOU?

SKWEE

OH! ムフ…

UNFOR-TUNATELY, I HAVE TO GO STRAIGHT TO WORK.

SPEAK-ING OF WHICH...

WE'VE PRE-PARED ALL YOUR FAVORITE DISHES...

CAN YOU REST A BIT TODAY?

WHISPER ヒソ…

DEFIN-ITELY BUSY, THOUGH...

HEY...

SHE SEEMS PRETTY NICE!

...THE LITTLE TASK I GAVE YOU ONE AFTERNOON TWO MONTHS AND FIFTEEN DAYS AGO?

ゴゴゴゴゴ RRRRMBB

YOU HAVEN'T FOR-GOTTEN ...

SHHHH...

ADELT.

ER... IT'S SORT OF A LONG STORY...

WELL, YOU SEE, HANA ...

...ADELT.

I ASKED YOU A QUESTION...

...BECAUSE YOU'RE FRIENDS WITH THE CEO OF THE BROKERAGE IN ROME.

IS IT TAKEN CARE OF?

NOW...

RRRRMBB

I ASKED YOU TO PREPARE THE DOCUMENTS FOR AN IMPORTANT DEAL...

IT'S NOT DONE!

GRIN

WHICH IS IT?

...OR NOT?

RRRRMBB

IS IT DONE?

YIKES!!

SHUFF

IF IT'S NOT DONE BY CHRISTMAS, I'LL HAVE YOUR EYEBALLS PLUCKED OUT!

Aaah...

SHUFF

LOCK HIM IN HIS OFFICE.

SHUFF

SHUFF

ボス～～!! BOSS!!

SNAP

WHMP

UEEP!!

U

U

WHERE'S CHITOGE?

NOW...

ドキィ!! LUB DUB

SHE'S GOT HIM TOTALLY WHIPPED!

SHE'S TOUGHER THAN A GANG BOSS!

HOLY SMOKES!!

I'M 16, MOTHER DEAREST!!

"MOTHER DEAREST"?!

F-FINE, THANK YOU!

HOW OLD ARE YOU NOW?

LET'S SEE...

LONG TIME NO SEE. HOW'VE YOU BEEN?

OH?

...

FIFTH IN YOUR GRADE?

おず... STUTTER.

F-FINE.

I-I SCORED FIFTH IN MY GRADE ON OUR EXAMS...

YOU'VE CER-TAINLY GROWN.

IS THAT SO?

HOW'S SCHOOL?

SO...HOW IS IT THAT YOU'RE FIFTH?

I'LL TRY HARDER!!

WAAAH!!

ぶわっ!!

ドキー

LUB DUB

YOU WERE VALEDIC-TORIAN.

YOU GRADUATED FROM THE MOST PRESTIGIOUS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL IN THE U.S.

I UNDERSTAND YOU'RE ATTENDING A PERFECTLY MEDIOCRE JAPANESE HIGH SCHOOL.

ドキー

LUB DUB

CHITOGE...

EXPLAIN SOME-THING TO ME.

ドキン!!

LUB DUB

AND WHO HAVE WE HERE?

ドキッ!!

LUB DUB

HMM?

TALK ABOUT INTIMI-DATING!!

AND HER MOM'S SERIOUSLY SCARY!!

CHITOGE'S SHAKING LIKE A CELL PHONE ON VIBRATE!

WHOA!!

SHAKA

ブブブブブ

YOU MEAN...

THE SAME ICHIJO FAMILY THAT RUNS THE SHUEI-GUMI...

YES...

YOUR BOY-FRIEND?

ICHIJO?

PLEASED TO MEET YOU!

THIS IS MY BOY-FRIEND...

LET ME INTRODUCE YOU, MOTHER DEAREST.

ER... YES...

MY NAME IS RAKU ICHIJO!

IF YOU EVER DO ANYTHING TO HURT HER...YOU CAN IMAGINE THE CONSEQUENCES, I TRUST?

WELL, TAKE CARE OF MY DAUGHTER, KID.

EEP!

I THINK SO.

YES...

...

IS THAT SO?

MY RELATIONSHIP WITH YOUR DAUGHTER IS HONORABLE AND PURE IN EVERY WAY, MADAM!

DON'T WORRY! U U

FLAIL

FLAIL わた

SAY...

TIME SURE FLIES.

HA HA...

SO, YOU HAVE A BOYFRIEND NOW?

SHE REALLY DOESN'T LET UP!!

THE REAL CONSE-QUENCES WOULD SURPASS YOUR WILDEST IMAGIINATION!

NEVER FEAR...

LUB DUB

I RECOG-NIZE...

...THAT RIBBON.

IT'S FALLING APART.

I'LL BUY YOU ALL THE RIBBONS YOU WANT.

YOU'RE STILL WEARING THAT OLD THING?

YES, MOTH-ER.

...

FIND YOURSELF SOME-THING PRETTIER.

A GIRL HAS TO LOOK NICE. YOU DON'T WANT YOUR BOYFRIEND TO DITCH YOU, DO YOU?

BOSS!

I'M AFRAID YOUR LATEST SECRETARY HAS COLLAPSED FROM EXHAUSTION!

I'VE LOST QUITE A FEW THIS MONTH.

AGAIN?

IT'S LIKE A STORM BLEW THROUGH HERE.

SHE'S DEFINITELY TERRIFYING.

Six-teen, Mad-am.

How many calls did I miss?

Oh? Not too bad.

WELL, I'VE GOT TO GET GOING.

WE'LL HAVE MORE TIME TO TALK ON CHRISTMAS EVE, CHITOGE.

HEY, KID!

HUH?

...

WELL THEN...

GREAT. NOT AGAIN.

THE BACK-UPS ARE ALL HOSPITAL-IZED TOO, MADAM...

WHO'S ON STANDBY?

CAN'T ANYONE WORK A MEASLY SEVENTY HOURS ANY-MORE?

...YOU'RE MY NEW SECRETARY FROM NOW TILL CHRISTMAS.

LOOKS LIKE...

THIS IS THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY TO TEST WHETHER HE'S APPROPRIATE RELATIONSHIP MATERIAL.

I CAN'T HAVE MY DAUGHTER DATING JUST ANY OLD LOSER.

YES, BUT...

MOTHER, ARE YOU SERIOUS?!

W-WAIT!!

!?

!?

WHAT ON EARTH...?!

Of course I'm serious.

WH...

WHAAAT?!!

I'LL REWARD YOU...

...WITH A STAY FOR TWO IN THE PENTHOUSE SUITE AT A DELUXE HOTEL...

...ON CHRISTMAS EVE! ♡

JING

IF YOU CAN'T DO IT, THAT'S FINE.

I'LL HAVE YOU THROWN INTO TOKYO BAY TOMORROW.

BUT... SECRETARY? I DON'T... I CAN'T...

IF YOU PROVE YOURSELF...

HOW-EVER...

...

CLMP ガシッ!!

THIS IS REALLY HAPPEN-ING?!

WAIT... FOR REAL?!

NOW, LET'S GO.

CARRY HIM TO THE CAR.

BLUSH. カアアア

WHAT?!

WH...

WONDER HOW HE'S TURNED OUT?

NO WAAAAAY!! マジで おぉぉぉ

THAT LITTLE BOY FROM TEN YEARS AGO...

SHFF スリル

SHFF スリル

AAAUGH!! うぉぉぉぉぉぉ

RAKU ICHIJO...

...


In Adelt's Office...
Boss ...
I hate seeing you like this....
Please? It's really a matter of life or death... Pretty please?
Grovel
Yes, hello? Listen, about that favor...
Grovel

ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?

YOU REALLY WANT ME AS YOUR SECRE-TARY?

OF COURSE.

WELL, WELL!

YOU'RE LOOKING THE PART!

# Chapter 60: Needed

DON'T WORRY ...

JUST DO EXACTLY AS I SAY AND YOU'LL BE FINE.

UM...

FOR STARTERS, HAVE A LOOK THROUGH THESE DOCUMENTS.

OUR AGENDA FOR THE DAY, PLUS MY SECRETARY'S MANUAL.

HUH?

FWUMP

FWUMP

YOU HAVE FIVE MINUTES TO COMMIT IT TO MEM-ORY. ♡

11-08

BRRRMM

FWAP

FWAP

FWAP

...

DRAFT ME A PROPOSAL ON MARKET ACQUISITION FOR THE FIVE EU COMPANIES.

WHAT DID THE RESEARCH INDICATE?

YES, VERY WELL.

ALSO...

I'M NOT TOTALLY SURE...

GLANCE

チラッ

SHE'S GOT SOMETHING SCHEDULED EVERY FEW MINUTES!!

10:35~
10:37~
10:41~
10:44~
10:50~
10:54~
10:55~
11:02~

I DON'T BELIEVE IT!! ALL OF THESE FILES ARE JUST TODAY'S AGENDA!!

NOW...

WHAT'S FIRST ON THE AGENDA TODAY, KID?

FLAIL

FLAIL

OH, UM...

THE AGENDA?

TALK ABOUT A HIGH-LEVEL MOM!

...BUT I THINK SHE'S USING AT LEAST FIVE DIFFERENT LANGUAGES...

...IN THE TELECONFERENCE SHE'S CONDUCTING.

KCHAK

OH, RIGHT.

WELL, WE'RE HERE.

YIKES! THAT'S A SUPER FAMOUS CORPORATION!!

YOU'RE MEETING WITH THE CEO OF COMPANY XX TO ADVISE HIM ON THEIR BUDGETARY DEFICIT...

LET'S SEE...

THIS PLACE IS HUGE!!

WHAT'RE YOU DOING?

Gad-zooks!

LET'S GO!

FWOOSH

RAKU

THE CEO'S GROVELING AT HER FEET?!

UGH. NO THANKS.

STEP ON ME, PLEASE!

I'M TERRIBLY SORRY, MADAM! THIS IS ALL MY FAULT.

UM...

MOTHER ?

SHE ACTUALLY STEPPED ON HIM!

JUST HOW POWER-FUL IS THIS LADY?!

FOR-GIVE ME, MADAM!

ULP!

SPLUT

!!

YOU THINK I'VE GOT NOTHING BETTER TO DO...

...THAN COVER FOR YOUR MISTAKES, YOU MORON?

OKAY, HANA...

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO DO?

UM... WHAT SHOULD I CALL YOU, THEN?

HMM. I'LL MAKE A SPECIAL EXCEPTION AND ALLOW YOU TO CALL ME HANA.

PLEASE !

YOU'VE GOT NO REASON TO CALL ME MOTHER, KID!

I have three whole hours?

...A COKE? YOU WANT...

YES. IF I NEED ANYTHING ELSE, I'LL LET YOU KNOW.

TAKE MY CREDIT CARD.

HUH?

YOU CAN GO BUY ME A COKE.

You have three hours.

HMM.

WELL, FOR STARTERS...

RRRING RRRING

KTNK ゴト

MAYBE THIS ISN'T GOING TO BE SO HARD AFTER ALL.

ガコッ KA-

TUNK コン!!

KCHIK

IT'S ME.

WOULD YOU PICK ONE UP?

HUH?

THE DAUGHTER OF A BUSINESS PARTNER OF MINE IN CANADA...

...WANTS A PLUSH DOLL THAT'S ONLY AVAILABLE AT TOKYO DISNEYLAND.

HANA? SURE. WHAT DO YOU NEED?

COULD YOU PICK UP A FEW MORE THINGS WHILE YOU'RE AT IT?

B-B-BUT...

JUST BE SURE NOT TO BE LATE.

IF YOU'RE NOT BACK WITHIN THREE HOURS...

DO YOU KNOW HOW FAR AWAY THAT IS?!

YOU HAVE MY CREDIT CARD AT YOUR DISPOSAL!

LOOK, DO WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO!

WAIT JUST A MINUTE!

DISNEY-LAND?!

AND ONE OF EACH OF THE LIMITED EDITION CHANEL BAGS ONLY SOLD IN JAPAN.

OH, AND ALSO ...

YOU...

I ALSO NEED YOU TO PICK UP SOME SPECIAL JAPANESE SWEETS FOR A FRIEND IN L.A.

YOU...

AND THE SON OF A COLLEAGUE IN PARIS WANTS A FIGURINE FROM AKIBA...

SHUDDER

PREPARE TO SUFFER A FATE WORSE THAN DEATH!

WELL, WELL. LOOK WHO'S HERE.

YOU MADE IT BACK.

SOMEHOW... I MADE IT IN TIME!

ぜぇ... WHEEZE

ハァ PANT

KCHAM!!

I GOT EVERY-THING!!

YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING !!

THIRTY SECONDS CAN MAKE OR BREAK A BUSINESS DEAL.

IS THAT CLEAR?

...THAT MAKES *ME* THIRTY SECONDS LATE, UNDERSTAND?

WHEN YOU'RE THIRTY SECONDS LATE...

TNK !!!

UNFORTUNATELY...

YOU'RE THIRTY SECONDS LATE!

TMP カ"ノ...

OH...

Y-YES...

Y-YIKES!!

MONEY CAN'T BUY YOU TIME! GET IT?

MY MOTTO IS "TIME ISN'T MONEY!"

ゴゴゴ

I'M ON MY WAY. PREPARE THE APPARATUS.

IT'S ME.

ウィ
VREEEM

KCHAK

YES, MADAM!

BREEP

ONE MOMENT...

NO. NO NEED TO WASTE TIME.

I'LL HAVE THEM GET YOUR CAR READY...

BWOOSH

AUGH !!

ガチャリ...
KCHUNG

??

UM, HANA? WHAT ARE YOU...?

FWHHSH

VSHOO

VWAKK

KA CHAK

KA-FWOOOSH

ギシ…
CHOONK

UH...
HANA?

SHOOP
カッ!!
EEP!!

AIIEEEE!!

FWISH
ｸﾙｸﾙ

KFWAM
ドサッ!

KTUNK
ゴロゴロ
KTUNK

TMP
ガッ!!

ギャアアア
AAAAA

AAAAAGH!

AAAAH!!
アアアア!

WE'VE BEEN WAITING.

WEL-COME, MADAM.

LET'S BEGIN.

...RAKU'S VOICE COMING FROM THE SKY JUST NOW?

WAS THAT ...

I must be imagining things...

DEEDLE DEEDLE DEE

♪ピロリロリ

EVERY-THING'S DECKED OUT FOR CHRIST-MAS...

GEE...

SIGH

HELLO?

H-HEY... IS THAT YOU, CHI-TOGE?

YIKES! YOU SOUND TERRI-BLE!

WON-DER WHAT HE WANTS?

LUB DUB ドキッ

OH... IT'S FROM RAKU!

I FINALLY GOT A LITTLE BREAK...

SPEAK-ING OF WHICH...

...YOUR MOM'S TOTALLY TERRIFYING!

HA HA! I GET THAT A LOT.

SO? WHAT'S UP?

NOTH-ING...

I WAS JUST WORRIED YOU MIGHT BE UPSET.

HUH?

HOW COME?

WELL, I FIGURED YOU WERE HOPING...

...YOUR MOM WOULD BE GLAD YOU WERE STILL WEARING THAT RIBBON, RIGHT?

WHAT'S IT GOT TO DO WITH YOU?

PLENTY. IT HAS PLENTY TO DO WITH ME.

HANA SAID...

...SHE'D TREAT US TO A STAY IN A HOTEL TOGETHER ON CHRISTMAS EVE IF I DO A GOOD JOB, RIGHT?

BUT I BET YOU'D RATHER SPEND CHRISTMAS EVE WITH YOUR MOM.

I GUESS I JUST WORRY...

...THAT I REALLY ...

...DON'T MATTER TO HER.

HUH?

...DIDN'T WANT TO SPEND CHRISTMAS EVE WITH ME.

MAYBE SHE JUST...

"HOW OLD ARE YOU NOW?"

WHEN-EVER I SEE HER...

...SHE ALWAYS ASKS ME...

OF COURSE SHE DOES! YOU'RE HER DAUGHTER!

THAT'S NOT TRUE!

SHE'S HARDER ON ME THAN ANYBODY.

AND ALL SHE EVER DOES IS SCOLD ME. SHE NEVER SAYS ANYTHING NICE.

SHE NEVER REMEMBERS.

I THINK YOU SHOULD BE HONEST ABOUT HOW YOU FEEL.

WHY DON'T YOU JUST TELL HER...

...YOU WANT TO SPEND CHRISTMAS EVE WITH HER?

...BUT SHE ALWAYS COMES HOME AT CHRISTMAS, RIGHT?

MAYBE SHE JUST...

SHE'S SUPER BUSY...

TOTALLY!

SHE'S YOUR MOM, RIGHT?

...

YOU REALLY THINK SO?

I GOTTA GO! ANYWAY, GOOD LUCK!

SORRY, CHITOGE, HANA'S CALLING ON THE OTHER LINE!

UH OH!

KUI-K

OH... BYE!

JOLT ビクッ!!

GOOD!

GOOD LUCK!

OKAY...

I'LL TRY IT.

TH...

...

TH-THANK...

HA HA キャッ

キャッ TEE HEE

KCHIK

フゥ... SIGH

ﾋﾟﾛﾛﾛﾛﾛ BREED...

ﾋﾟﾛﾛﾛﾛﾛ BREED...

JUST BE...

...HON-EST?

RRRRING

RRRRING

RRRRING

RRRRING

KCHIK

HELLO?

ビクッ!!

JOLT

...

UM...

OH... SORRY! I'LL BE REALLY QUICK!

I'M WORKING RIGHT NOW. CAN IT WAIT?

UM, I...

...

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?

IT'S ME...

UM, MOTHER?

OH...

CHI-TOGE?

WELL, THIS IS A SUR-PRISE.

I'D RATHER...

...WITH YOU, MOTHER...

I'D RATHER SPEND CHRISTMAS EVE...

I DON'T WANT TO SPEND THE NIGHT WITH RAKU ON CHRISTMAS EVE.

CAN WE CALL IT OFF?

OH? WHY?

I'M SURE YOU'D MUCH RATHER BE WITH YOUR BOYFRIEND!

I...

NO...

WITH ME?

OH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME!

...

IS THAT ALL?

ALL RIGHT THEN. GOOD-BYE.

KCHIK

OH...

I'M BUSY.

BESIDES, I ALREADY MADE PLANS TO WORK CHRISTMAS EVE.

BREEP

BREEP

BREEP

BREEP

BREEP

WHY...

THAT WAS CHITOGE ON THE PHONE, RIGHT?

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

WHY DID YOU SAY NO?!

I'LL RUN OUT AND GET WHATEVER YOU WANT!

...!!

THEN AT LEAST GET HER A CHRISTMAS PRESENT!!

...SO I MADE OTHER PLANS.

I HAVE TO WORK.

I FIGURED SHE'D BE WITH YOU ON CHRISTMAS EVE...

...

I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN DO IT.

IS YOUR WORK THAT IMPORTANT?

WHY?

THAT'S NOT NECESSARY.

WE HAVE BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO.

AND THERE'S MORE AFTER THAT.

...

AS LONG AS PEOPLE NEED ME...

...I'LL KEEP USING MY ABILITIES.

...AND PEOPLE NEED ME.

I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN DO IT...

I BELIEVE WE HAVE A DUTY TO MAKE USE OF OUR ABILITIES.

"PEOPLE NEED ME?"

"I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN DO IT"?

I DON'T GET IT.

I NEED YOU TO ORGANIZE THESE FILES.

...

NOW, DON'T JUST STAND THERE...

CHITOGE...

I'M SO SORRY!

WHAT ABOUT...

...THE PERSON WHO NEEDS YOU MOST OF ALL?!

SHF



# Chapter 61: Mother

HUSTLE
HUSTLE
HUSTLE
HUSTLE
HUSTLE
HUSTLE
12 MONTH
23 DAY
SHOOP
YES, MA'AM!
NOT BAD.
I HAVE THEM RIGHT HERE!
THE LIMITED EDITION FIGURINE FROM AKIBA AND THE SPECIAL JAPANESE SWEETS...
TOK TOK
コン コン
ABOUT THAT STUFF I ASKED YOU TO TAKE CARE OF YESTER-DAY...
HEY, KID...
*AKIBA IS SHORT FOR AKIHABARA, A TOKYO DISTRICT FAMOUS FOR OTAKU GOODS.
WELL, JUST WAIT! I'LL SHOW HER!
I DIDN'T THINK HANA IS SUCH A COLD-HEARTED PARENT!
SHOOT.

OVER HERE!

CHITOGE!

OH!

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE RIBBON YOU ALWAYS WEAR?

IT SURE IS COLD, ISN'T IT?

WHERE SHOULD WE GO SHOP-PING?

THANKS FOR WAITING, GUYS!

OH! WELL, I THINK YOU LOOK GREAT!

UH... YEAH. SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

GOING FOR A NEW LOOK?

IT'S HAPPENING. A LOT OF KIDS IN OUR CLASS ARE GOING. WE'LL BE THERE TOO.

We also have to get presents for the party.

HEY...

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO MAIKO'S CHRISTMAS PARTY IDEA?

I FINISHED BOOKING RESTAU-RANTS FOR YOUR DINNER MEETINGS AND ADJUSTING YOUR SCHEDULE!

WHAM

THERE!

COULD I...

...GO TOO?

I APPRECI-ATE IT, OF COURSE.

WHAT'S COME OVER YOU?

YOU'VE BEEN QUITE THE HARD WORKER THESE PAST FEW DAYS.

THAT WAS QUICK.

WHAT'S NEXT?

HAHH...

OF COURSE. YOU WORK, YOU GET PAID. THAT'S HOW THE WORLD WORKS.

I'M GETTING COMPENSA-TION?

I SUPPOSE I SHOULD UP YOUR COMPENSA-TION...

WHERE DO YOU GET YOUR STAMINA ?!

I'VE BEEN AT YOUR SIDE FOR DAYS NOW, AND I'VE NEVER ONCE SEEN YOU REST OR SLEEP.

THAT GOES DOUBLE FOR YOU, LADY.

TAP カタ TAP カタ TAP カタ

WHEEZ ぜー..

WHEEZ ぜー..

SPEAK-ING OF WHICH...

I BOOKED YOU A FANCY HOTEL SUITE, ACCORDING TO OUR AGREEMENT.

JINGLE

HUH?

YOU PASS.

YOU'VE PROVEN YOURSELF WORTHY OF MY DAUGHTER.

AS HER MOTHER, I'M OBLIGATED TO URGE YOU TO HAVE FUN LIKE HEALTHY TEENAGERS...

I DON'T WANT ANY PAY.

I DON'T WANT THE HOTEL ROOM, EITHER.

THERE'S JUST ONE THING...

...I WANT TO ASK OF YOU.

∞∞?

IF I WORK HARD ENOUGH...

...TO FREE UP SOME EXTRA TIME FOR YOU TOMORROW EVENING...

WOULD YOU SPEND THAT TIME WITH CHITOGE?

WHAT?

WILL YOU, OR WON'T YOU?

WHICH IS IT?

WHAT ON EARTH...

IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE!

IF I KEEP SLAVING AT THIS BREAKNECK PACE, YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO TAKE A LITTLE TIME OFF, RIGHT?

WELL, I SUP-POSE...

I'LL GET BACK TO WORK!!

THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME.

HEY, WAIT...

IN THEORY, IT'S POS-SIBLE...

BUT...

...

MAYBE IF I HADN'T GIVEN CHITOGE THAT ADVICE THE OTHER DAY, SHE WOULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN HURT.

MAYBE IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS.

MY HEART GOES OUT TO THAT POOR GIRL!!

VWSH

BUT STILL...

SCRABBLE
SCRABBLE
SCRABBLE
BUT I'VE GOT TO AT LEAST DO WHAT I CAN TO HELP!
WHO KNOWS HOW IT'LL GO IF THEY REALLY SPEND TIME TOGETHER...
HUSTLE
HUSTLE
HUSTLE
TA-DAA!!
きらっ GLEAM !!
SHP
ガサ...
...FOR YOUR UPCOMING MEETINGS WITH VARIOUS BUSINESS PARTNERS.
ALL OF THE GIFTS YOU'LL NEED...
...
TOTALLY SQUARED AWAY.
YOUR WORK FOR THE ENTIRE MONTH...

CAN YOU SPEND TIME WITH CHITOGE NOW?

PLEASE...

HANA.

I DID EVERY-THING I COULD...

THANK YOU.

...

I CAN'T.

NO.

WHAT'S THAT?

...GIVE THIS TO HER?

WILL YOU AT LEAST...

SHP ガサ...

YOU HAVE TIME, DON'T YOU?

WHY NOT?!

HOW CAN YOU BE SO SURE?!

WHAT?!

YOU SHOULD STAY OUT OF OTHER PEOPLE'S FAMILY MATTERS.

THIS IS NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.

I TOLD YOU IT WASN'T NECESSARY.

WE'VE BEEN OVER THIS.

I PICKED IT OUT.

A PRESENT.

WILL YOU GIVE IT TO HER?

IT'S A SCARF.

...!

IT'S NOT A MATTER OF DO OR DON'T...

...

NO.

DO YOU REALLY NOT WANT TO SPEND TIME WITH YOUR DAUGHTER?

...

IF WE'RE AHEAD OF SCHEDULE, THAT'S GREAT.

WE CAN FILL THE TIME WITH MORE WORK.

GAH!!

GRR ギュ...!!

SHE JUST...

...DOESN'T CARE ABOUT CHITOGE AT ALL.

ギュ...! CLENCH

...

I GET IT.

FINE.

カラ SHFF ....

YOU HEART-LESS...

I DO HAVE SOMETHING FOR HER..

...I DON'T SEE HOW I CAN GIVE IT TO HER THIS YEAR.

BUT YET AGAIN...

THIS IS TEN YEARS' WORTH.

THEY'VE BEEN PILING UP.

WHFF

ドッ

SHMP

FWMP

ER... HANA? WHAT IS THAT?

...

HMM?

A CHRIST-MAS PRESENT.

H-HANA? Y-YOUR CIGARETTE...

...??

HUH?

??

?!

BLRFF

ブッ!!?

SNAP

パキッ

!!!

I BUY HER ONE EVERY YEAR..

...BUT I CAN'T SEEM TO GIVE THEM TO HER.

I THOUGHT... CHITOGE DIDN'T MATTER TO YOU.

...??

WHAT GAVE YOU THAT IDEA?

OH?

*I need something in my mouth, though. It calms me.*

I QUIT SMOKING WHEN I WAS PREGNANT WITH CHITOGE.

WHAT?!

WH...

IT'S JUST A CHOCOLATE CIGARETTE.

OH, THIS?

*Looks pretty real, doesn't it?*

DIDN'T YOU EVER TRY ONE AS A KID?

THAT CHILD...

SHE INSISTS ON STILL WEARING THAT CHEAP RIBBON I BOUGHT HER TEN YEARS AGO!

I'M SURE THERE'S PLENTY OF THINGS SHE COULD WEAR...

...THAT WOULD BE MORE BECOMING.

...YOU FORGET HOW OLD SHE IS...

YOU FORGOT ABOUT THE RIBBON YOU GAVE HER..

ALL KINDS OF STUFF!

WH... WHAAAAT ??

I HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN.

I GAVE HER THAT RIBBON SHE ALWAYS WEARS.

Your small talk doesn't work!!

WAIT A SEC...

Kinda like talking about the weather.

IT'S MY WAY OF MAKING SMALL TALK.

I JUST GET NERVOUS AROUND HER.

AND OF COURSE I REMEMBER HOW OLD SHE IS.

SHE COULD DO THINGS HER FATHER AND I NEVER COULD.

SHE'S BRILLIANT, YOU KNOW.

I FEEL WE HAVE A DUTY TO USE OUR GIFTS.

LIKE I SAID BEFORE ...

SHE'S REALLY SOMETHING, ISN'T SHE?

HUH?

THAT'S PROBABLY WHY...

...SHE NEVER CALLS ME "MOM" ANYMORE.

...

SHE GETS THAT FROM ME.

PLUS, SHE'S A BEAUTY.

Heh heh...

PROB-ABLY...

...TOO HARD.

I'VE ALWAYS BEEN HARD ON HER...

...YOU BOOKED US A HOTEL ROOM FOR CHRISTMAS EVE?

HUH?

IS THAT WHY...

...

...

...HATES MY GUTS.

SHE PROB-ABLY...

...

HANA!!

YES?

I FINALLY GET IT.

ooo!!

SO THAT'S HOW IT IS!!

FOR... FOR CRYING OUT LOUD!!

I FIGURED THAT'S WHAT SHE'D PREFER.

...

Isn't it?

WHY, YOU LITTLE... YOU'VE GOT SOME NERVE!!

THAT HURT!!

OUCH!!

YOU IDIOT!!

YOU'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG!!

SHE WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO SPENDING CHRISTMAS WITH YOU!!

AND SHE STILL CALLS YOU "MOM" WHEN YOU'RE NOT AROUND!!

SHE NEEDS YOU!

NOW MORE THAN EVER!!

CHI-TOGE ...

...DOESN'T HATE YOUR GUTS!!

...

BUT...

IT'S NOT TOO LATE!!

PLEASE, GO SPEND TIME WITH HER!!

WELL, I THOUGHT I WOULDN'T BE SEEING CHITOGE ANYWAY, SO I FIGURED I SHOULD BE GETTING BACK.

I already made plans.

COME TO THINK OF IT, SHE NEVER SAID SHE PLANNED ON WORKING IN JAPAN!

Why didn't you say so before ?!

WHAAAT?!

I HAVE TO LEAVE FOR THE U.S. RIGHT AFTER THIS TODAY.

What should I do?

I'LL GET CHITOGE!

SHOOP

BUT...

...AND WAIT IN THAT FANCY HOTEL SUITE YOU BOOKED!

PLEASE GET YOUR STUFF READY TO GO, HANA...

MY PLANE LEAVES IN THREE HOURS.

DARN! THERE'S HARDLY ANY TIME!

HOW LONG DO YOU HAVE?

KUHAK

BASICALLY...

SHE'S A LOT LIKE CHITOGE!!

SHE MAY BE BRILLIANT AT BUSINESS...

GOOD GRIEF!

BUT SHE'S CLUELESS IN EVERYTHING ELSE!

WHEN WILL MY BELOVED RAKU ARRIVE?

OH, I'M SURE HE'LL BE HERE ANY MINUTE!

lie

Give me a hand, will ya, Maiko?

Over here!

ISN'T IT COLD OVER BY THE WINDOW, MISTRESS?

SOMETHING SPECIAL'S GOING TO HAPPEN THIS YEAR. I CAN FEEL IT!

COOL! A WHITE CHRISTMAS !!

HEY, LOOK! IT'S SNOWING OUTSIDE!!

I'LL GET YOU ONE.

YOU'LL TAKE GOOD CARE OF IT, WON'T YOU?

I WISH I HAD A RIBBON LIKE THIS ONE!

HEY, MOM!

Outta the way!!

ME AND MY MOM...

IS THIS HOW IT'S ALWAYS GOING TO BE NOW?

CLENCH

ギュ

...END UP LIKE THIS?

HOW DID WE...

...THINGS WERE SO NORMAL BETWEEN US...

WHEN I WAS LITTLE...

WHAAAT ?!

WH...

WHA...?!

VRRMMM

ギャギャギャ

CHITOGEEEE!!

ギャギャギャ

SKREEE

HOORAY! MY BELOVED RAKU!!

RAKU ?!

ARE YOU THERE?!

CHITOGE ...!!

WHAT'S GOING ON? WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME??

WAIT A MINUTE!

LISTEN, OKAY...

HUH?

IF YOU'RE GOING TO WHISK SOMEONE AWAY, TAKE ME, RAKU DEAREST!!

*WAAAH!* WHERE ARE YOU TWO SNEAKING OFF TO ON CHRISTMAS EVE?!

I DON'T HAVE TIME TO EXPLAIN!!

HEY, RAKU ICHIJO! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!

*Why aren't you with my mom...*

WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE, HONEY?

THERE'S NO TIME TO EXPLAIN!!

HUH ?!

I NEED YOU TO COME WITH ME!!

WAIT!!

SNATCH

ガシ!!

WE'VE GOTTA GET TO THE PENTHOUSE SUITE AT A FANCY HOTEL!!

WHSH

くチっ!!!

WHÄAT?

SAY...

HUUUH?!

PLEASE!!

LET US MAKE IT IN TIME!!

HAHH

ハァ…!

..

ONODERA FAINTED!

YIKES!

WHAT'S GOING ON?!

WHAT DOES HE MEAN, THE PENTHOUSE SUITE AT A FANCY HOTEL...

WHAT'S GOING ON?!

HOW SHOULD I KN... GLRF!!

ガガガ

GAG GAG

Ms. Hana Kirisaki

Notice: boarding time change

Due to the anticipated snow storm, we ask that you board your scheduled charter flight earlier than planned. Please allow sufficient time...

RRRIINNG

RRRIINNG



NO, ICHIJO!!

THE ROADS ARE BACKED UP THANKS TO THE BLIZ-ZARD UP NORTH!

TRAFFIC'S AT A TOTAL STAND-STILL!

FOR REAL?!

NOW, OF ALL TIMES??

HOLD UP!

WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT?

Hahh...!

'SCUSE ME! I'LL BRING IT BACK LATER, I PROMISE !!

SHOONK

TUNK

AIIEE!

# Chapter 62: The Reason

I'M TAKING YOU TO HER, SO SIT BACK AND CHILL!

YOUR MOM'S WAITING FOR YOU THERE!!

I DON'T WANNA SPEND THE NIGHT IN A HOTEL WITH YOU!!

I'M NOT GOING!!

VOOSH

キャン!!

...

RAKU

...

ARE YOU TAKING ME TO THE HOTEL MY MOM BOOKED FOR US?

...BUT SHE CARES ABOUT YOU A LOT!

...ALWAYS SAYS THE WRONG THING, SO YOU MAY FIND THIS HARD TO BELIEVE...

YOUR MOM...

MY MOM?

?!

WHY?

HOW ABOUT TRUSTING ME...

...JUST THIS ONCE?

SKWEE

ﾅﾆｪ...

X-MAS EVE

WHAT?

BUT... THAT CAN'T BE TRUE...

BELIEVE IT!!

HOW DO YOU EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE THAT?!

YES...

WE SHOULD GO.

EVERY-THING'S READY FOR YOUR DEPAR-TURE.

MS. HANA ...

...WHEN YOU'RE NOT AROUND!!

...CALLS YOU "MOM"...

CHITOGE DOESN'T HATE YOUR GUTS!!

SHE STILL...

STILL...

OKAY ...

TO THE AIRPORT, THEN!

COME ON!!

I...

DOES SHE REALLY...

YES. HER FLIGHT WAS MOVED UP BECAUSE OF THE SNOW ...

SHE'S GONE?!

...STILL CALL ME MOM?

...WRONG ABOUT EVERY-THING?

WAS I...

VWOOOSH

ギャギャギャギャ

...OUR COMPANY WILL LOSE BILLIONS!

IF YOU MISS THIS MEETING...

WE'D BETTER HURRY.

THE SNOW'S GETTING HEAVIER.

カシャカシャカシャカシャ
PEDAL PEDAL PEDAL PEDAL

...AAÜGH!

GHRRH...

ガシャーン!!
KLANG

ギキキ!!
SKREE

hahh...

hahh...

BWOOO

HYAAH!!

VWHOOOOOOOOSH

WE'RE TOO LATE.

...

...

BLOW OFF YOUR MEETING!

PLEASE, HANA!!

NO!!

KCHIK

4x!!

RRRING RRRING

KID...

...

GIVE CHI-TOGE...

...MY BEST.

YOU'RE JUST USING WORK AS AN EXCUSE!

YOU'RE REALLY JUST NERVOUS ABOUT BEING WITH HER!!

ACT YOUR AGE AND QUIT RUNNING AWAY!!

PLEASE...

WHAT'S MORE IMPOR-TANT? YOUR WORK OR YOUR DAUGH-TER?

THINK ABOUT IT...

BUT IT'S TOO LATE.

THANK YOU.

THANKS FOR TELLING ME HOW CHITOGE FEELS.

BUT I'VE GOTTA GO.

PLEASE...

...MOM!

...SERI-OUSLY!

...

MOM?

HUH?

WHA...?

VWHOOOSH

UH...

ER...

BWOOSH

KWHUD

AIEE!!

...!

MOM!

バン!!

KCHAM

CHI-
TOGE!

...

...

DO...

DO
YOU...

I...

I...

TALK ABOUT AWKWARD...

...

ooo!

...STILL...

...LOVE ME?

DO YOU...

I HARDLY EVER SEE YOU...

AND WHEN I DO, YOU ALWAYS SCOLD ME!

BUT YOU FREAK ME OUT!

OF COURSE...

...I DO.

...

BUT...

I LOVE YOU!!

PLUS, YOU'RE SUPER INTIMIDAT-ING!!

YOU DON'T PAY ANY ATTENTION TO ME...

PUP

PUP

PUP

...AND I NEVER KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING!

…

CHI-
TOGE
…

PUP
ぷわっ
PUP
!!!

?!!

MOM!!

ガシッ!!
SKWEE
WAAAAAH
あおおおおおおおお

CHITOGE!!

…

SOB
SOB
あおおおお

HA!
I
KNEW
IT!

あおおお
SOB

Mom!
Oh,
Mom...

I'm so
sorry,
Chitoge...

LIKE
MOTHER,
LIKE
DAUGHTER!

SOB SOB

おーーいおいおい

SOB SOB SOB
あおおおおおおおお

...TO STAY OUT HERE.

IT'S TOO COLD...

HUH?

!?

CHING

!!

MS. HANA!

HAVE A NICE CHRIST-MAS EVE!

YOU AND CHITOGE SHOULD SPEND QUALITY TIME TOGETHER AT THE HOTEL.

...AND DO AS MUCH DAMAGE CONTROL AS I CAN.

I'LL GET BACK TO THE OFFICE...

MERRY CHRIST-MAS!

KIDDO!

CAREFUL YOU DON'T GET TOO BIG FOR YOUR BRITCHES ...

LET'S JUST SAY...

OH, COME ON.

CUT ME SOME SLACK.

YAP
YAP
YAP

IT'S A NEW HAIR RIBBON.

I PICKED IT OUT FOR YOU.

HERE.

OH! I ALMOST FORGOT.

I NEVER GAVE YOU YOUR CHRISTMAS PRESENT!

BUT YOU'RE SO PRETTY, YOU SHOULD HAVE SOME-THING NICER.

I REALLY APPRECIATE...

...HOW YOU'VE WORN THAT RIBBON FOR SO LONG.

...

I'D LIKE...

THANKS, MOM...

BUT ACTU-ALLY...

...OF A LOT OF GREAT MEMO-RIES.

IT REMINDS ME...

...TO KEEP WEARING THIS ONE.

WELL, OKAY.

SWSH

2 IL...

OOO?

WHAT ??

...YOU STARTED WEARING THAT RIBBON!

HE WAS THE REASON...

HAVE YOU FORGOT-TEN?

...WOULD PREFER IT THAT WAY.

I'M SURE YOUR BOY-FRIEND...

...?

WHO, RAKU? WHY DO YOU SAY THAT?

...THERE WAS A LITTLE GIRL WHO WORE A RIBBON LIKE THAT ONE.

IN YOUR FAVORITE PICTURE BOOK...

ONE SUMMER, THE TWO OF YOU SPENT A LOT OF TIME TOGETHER, REMEMBER?

TEN YEARS AGO...

...

RAKU... SAID THAT?

AND YOU BEGGED ME TO BUY YOU ONE!

RAKU TOLD YOU, "I BET YOU'D LOOK CUTE WITH A RIBBON LIKE THAT."

DON'T YOU REMEM-BER?

THAT FACT THAT YOU AND I...

...HAD THIS CHANCE TO CATCH UP...

...HIS DOING.

...WAS ENTIRELY ...

WHY DON'T YOU GO BE WITH HIM NOW?

...CHITOGE?

WHAT?

YES...

DON'T YOU WANT TO GO BE WITH HIM?

BESIDES, HE'S YOUR BOY-FRIEND, RIGHT?

CREAK

4:34

TICK...

TICK...

TICK...

12/24

TICK...

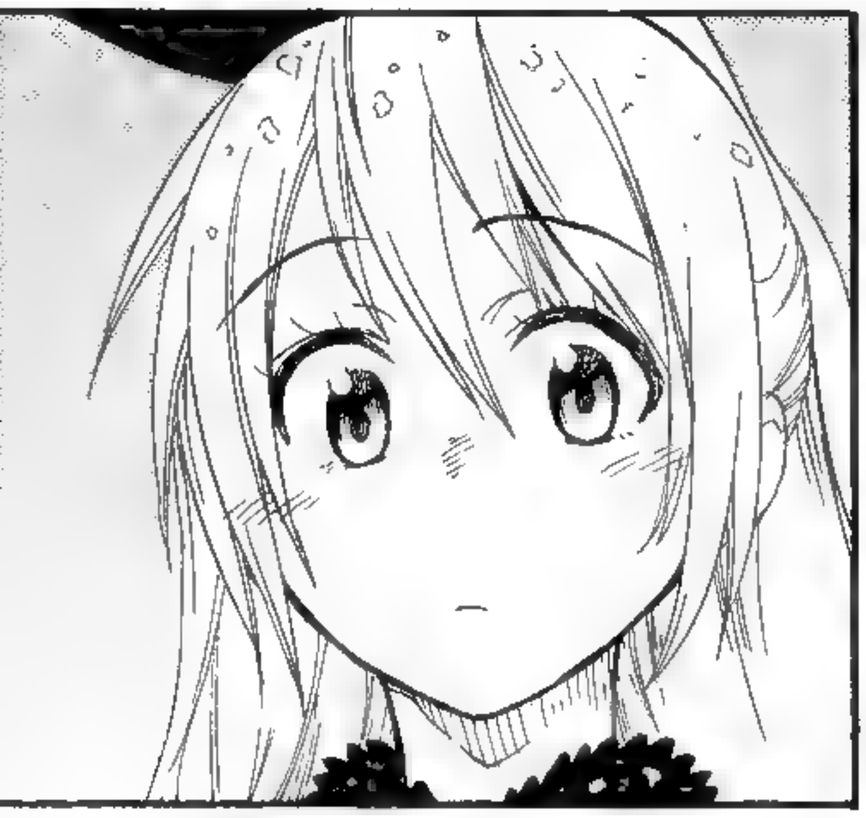
ゴォオオオ

VWHOOO

WHHOOO

オオオオ






ぐぉ
ZZZZ
ZZZZ




トスン…
SHMP
ZZZZ
かー!!


ZZZZ
ぐぉー!!
ガッ…
TOK
ガッ…
TOK

TUNK
トン…
Hmng ?
HERE …
…
ZZZZ
C'MON. YOU'LL CATCH A COLD, SLEEPING HERE.
HEY, STUPID BEAN SPROUT…
ZZZZ…
PAT
TICK… 4…
TOCK…
THANK YOU…
…RAKU
6:04
KCHIK
12/24

WHY ON EARTH ...?!

WHAT'S GOING ON?

ZZZZ

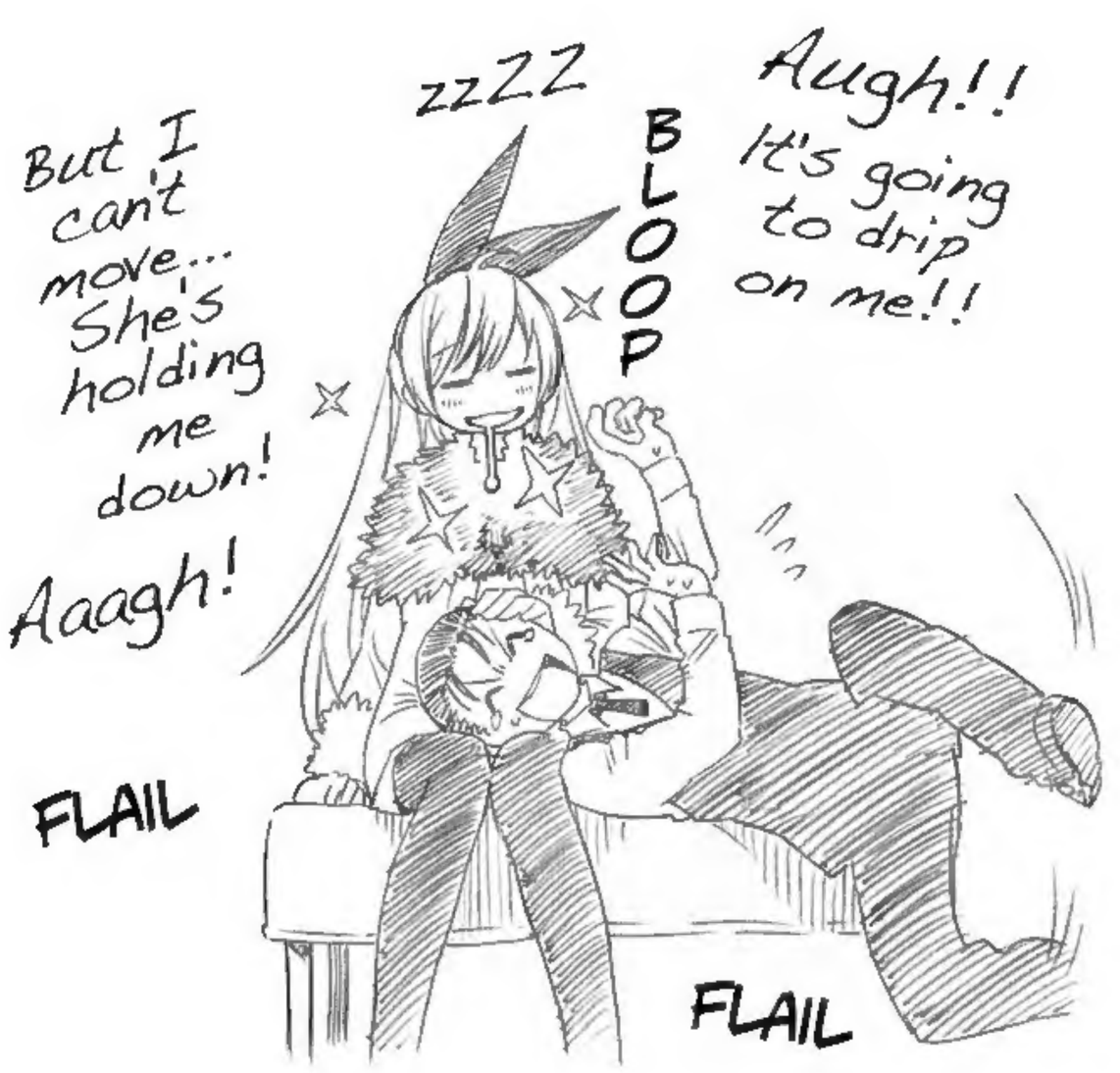
HUH?

ZZZZ

HEY, DUMMY!

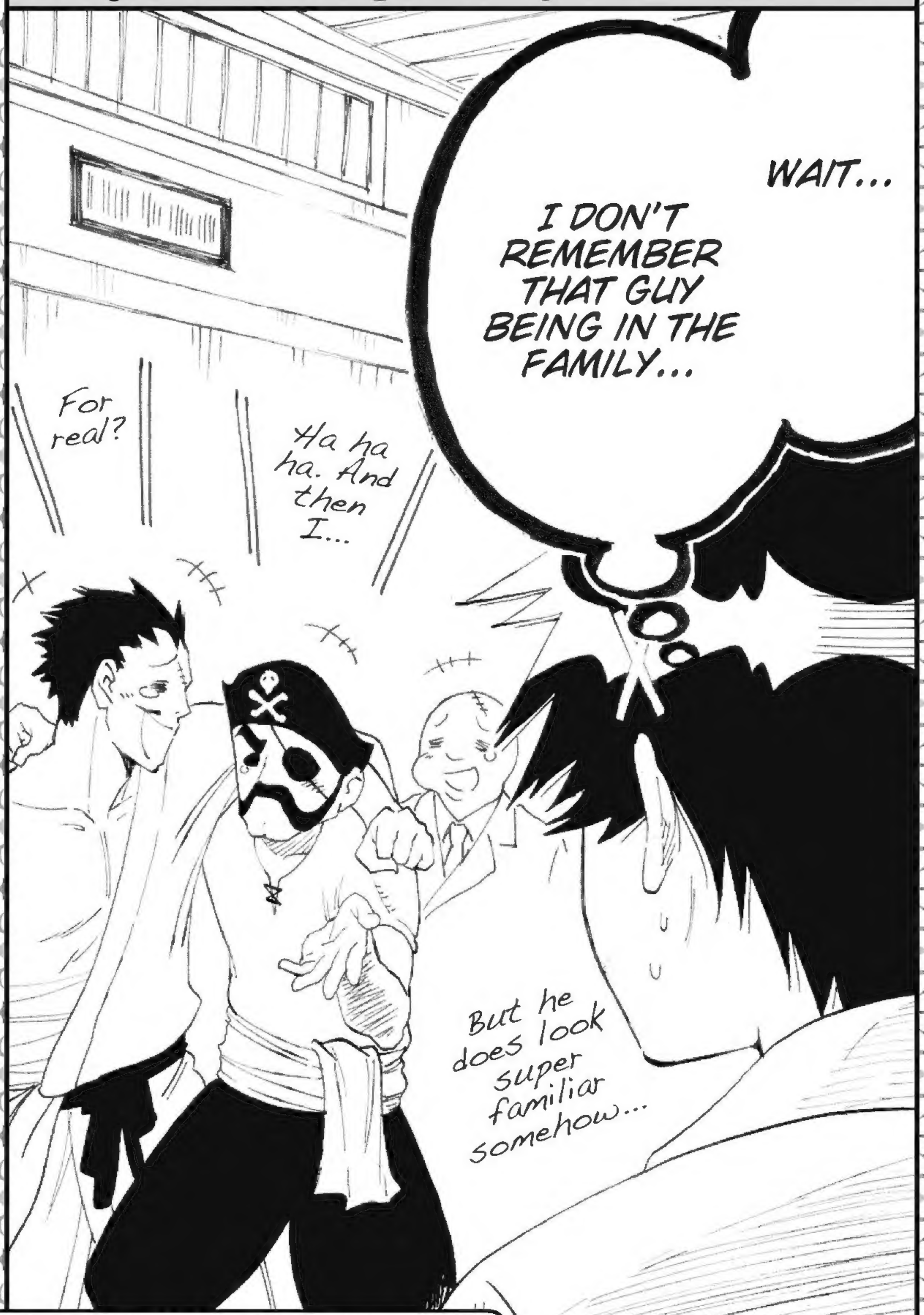
...

YOU'LL CATCH A COLD SLEEPING HERE!


But I can't move... She's holding me down!
Aaagh!
FLAIL
zzZZ
BLOOP
Augh!! It's going to drip on me!!
FLAIL

# Artist's Homework

## Draw an illustration incorporating the Jump pirate logo in your series.




ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN *SHUKAN SHONEN JUMP* 2013 DOUBLE ISSUE 6-7.

# Bonus Comic

## ☆Chapter 57: Intermission☆

Hey... Why don't I do your makeup, Tsugumi?

Me? Uh, I dunno...

Oh, come on!

Makeup research.

I'm trying to impress a certain someone.

What are you doing, Mistress?

Hmm...

Chi-toge's actually a whiz with makeup.

Wow!! You look amazing!!

Makeup really suits you!!

I look like someone else!

WHO?

KO

TA-DAA!!

SPARKLE キラ

SPARKLE キラキラ

Pardon me...

PAT PAT

Let's see...

Are you sure?

Wanna practice on me?

You should really learn how to do this stuff.

DOOM!

Not yet...

Not yet...

Now?

Huh?!

Um... I think I'm not quite done.

GLEAM

Well?

How do I look?

I'm sorry, Mis-tess...

What do you mean?

Hyeek!

What happened to your face?!

☆ End ☆